

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 104

28 May 1980

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO Views European Initiatives With 'Great Caution' [Riyadh AR-RYAD 14 May] A 1
Hawatimah Discusses Fatah Plan for Settlement A 3

ARABIAN PENINSULA**BAHRAIN**

Heir Apparent Leaves for Morocco on Visit C 1
Finance Minister Leaves for Spain 28 May C 1
Saudi Industry Minister Arrives for Meetings C 1

KUWAIT

POLISARIO Official Denies Cuban Troops' Presence C 1
Explosions Partially Destroy Kuwaiti Offices of Iran Air C 2
Official Investigation C 2

OMAN

Petroleum Ministry Announces Hike in Crude Price C 2
Official Comment C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Information Minister: Negotiated Peace With Israel Possible C 3
Crown Prince Fahd Clarifies Saudi Stand on Palestine C 3
'UKAZ Sees Parallels Between Soviet, Israeli Aggression [20 May] C 5
EEC Approach to Palestinian Problem Favored C 6
FRG Finance Minister Arrives in Riyadh C 6
Bilateral Relations C 7
Monetary Stability, Inflation C 7

PDRY

'Ali Nasir Muhammad Leaves for Syria C 8
'Ali Nasir Muhammad Visits Soviet Union [cross-reference] C 8

YAR

Information Minister Leaves for Moscow 27 May C 8
Committee To Prepare for General People's Congress Formed C 8
President Salih Receives PDRY Official 24 May C 10

EGYPT

AL-AHRAM: U.S. Decides To Expedite Delivery of F-16 Planes D 1
AL-AHRAM: Autonomy Talks Expected To Resume in 2 Weeks D 1
Contradictory AL-AHRAM Report D 1
Vice President Mubarak Arrives in London for Talks D 2
Remarks After Thatcher, Carrington Meetings D 2
Under Secretary's Press Conference D 2
Foreign Minister 'Ali Comments on Prince Fahd's Statement D 4
'Ali on Autonomy Negotiations, Military Facilities for U.S. D 4

State Minister Ghali on European Initiative, Fahd Statement	D 5
Ghali Leaves 27 May for Official Visit to Italy	D 6
Under Secretary al-Baz on Israeli Gaza Settlements	D 6
Egypt Rejects Ethiopian Claims on Nile River Water Use	D 6

IRAQ

Iranian Force Reportedly Crosses Border, Kidnaps 8 Iraqis	E 1
Voice of Lebanon Reports Execution of Iraqi Officials	E 1
Finance Minister Leaves for Vienna OPEC Meeting	E 1
Party Official Returns From Visit to Yugoslavia	E 1
Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister Arrives in Baghdad	E 1
RCC Vice Chairman Leads Delegation to Czechoslovakia	E 2
INA, Romania's AGEPRES View Bilateral Cooperation	E 2
Omani Minister Arrives in Baghdad for 2-Day Visit	E 2
Statement on Arrival	E 2
Sultan's Message to Husayn Conveyed	E 2
Meeting With 'Alwan	E 3
Departure 27 May	E 3
RCC Official Receives Letter From Kuwaiti Prime Minister	E 3
Djibouti Prime Minister Concludes Visit; Protocol Signed	E 4
Barkat Statement	E 4
Protocol Signed 24 May	E 4
President Gouled Message to Husayn	E 4
Departure 24 May	E 4

JORDAN

AD-DUSTUR Comments on Outcome of Islamic Conference	F 1
Minister of State Returns From Visit to Algeria	F 1
Japanese Chief of Staff Arrives on Visit 25 May	F 2
Departs 26 May	F 2
Prime Minister Reasserts Stand on Deportees Issue	F 2

LEBANON

Lebanon Lodges Complaint With UN Security Council	G 1
Butrus Interviewed on Military Talks, Sidon Incident	G 1
Army Commander, Chief of Staff Leave Beirut for Damascus [VOL]	G 2
Return From Damascus	G 2
ADF Commander Returns From Visit to Damascus	G 2
Internal Security Director Leaves for Paris [VOL]	G 2

SYRIA

Syrian-Soviet Communique Issued; Delegation Departs	H 1
Foreign Minister Khaddam Meets With 'Arafat [VOP]	H 2
Syrian, PDRY Presidents Resume Talks in Damascus	H 2
PDRY President, 'Arafat Meet in Damascus 26 May	H 2
Tunisian Information Minister Arrives 25 May	H 3
Meets Khaddam	H 3
TISHRIN Comments on Escalation of 'U.S. Conspiracies'	H 3
AL-WATAN Says Syrian Communist Party To Be Armed [19 May]	H 4
Prime Minister Receives PNC Speaker al-Fahum	H 5
Al-Asad Cables Czech President on Reelection	H 5
Aleppo Mayor Takes Constitutional Oath Before Al-Asad	H 5

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Yugoslavia's Vrhovec Arrives, Makes Statement	I 1
Djibouti Foreign Minister Ends 3-Day Visit	I 1
Nicaraguan Military Delegation Arrives in Algiers	I 1

LIBYA

Palestinian Congress Elects Officials	I 1
YAR Chief of Staff Ends Visit 23 May	I 2
Oil Secretary Receives DPRK Economic Minister	I 2
Departure of DPRK Official	I 2

MAURITANIA

Haydala Details Results of China, Iraq, Kuwait Visits	I 2
Haydala Leaves for Lome ECOWAS Summit	I 3

MOROCCO

King Hassan Meets With Saudi Crown Prince	I 3
Majority Votes for Constitutional Amendment	I 4
Rabat Reports Enemy Losses in 23 May Clash	I 4

SUDAN

Numayri Addresses Revolution Day Ceremony 24 May	I 4
--	-----

TUNISIA

Defense Minister Baly Returns From Italy	I 7
--	-----

ISRAEL

Knesset Rejects Sheli's No-Confidence Motion 27 May	N 1
Ambassador 'Evron Meets With Muskie, Comments on Meeting	N 1
U.S. Said Not To Favor Dismantling West Bank Settlements [HA'ARETZ 27 May]	N 1
U.S. Officials Deny Coordination With Egypt on Resuming Talks	N 2
Interior Minister Comments on Target Date for Autonomy Talks	N 2
U.S. Officials on As-Sadat Reaction to Weizman Resignation	N 3
['AL HAMISHMAR 27 May]	
Saudi Autonomy Proposal Said Coordinated With Egypt ['AL HAMISHMAR 26 May]	N 3
Begin Invitation for Prince Fahd Visit Reported	N 4
Shamir Comments on Saudi Proposal, Weizman Resignation	N 4
Search Continues for Replacement for Defense Minister Weizman	N 5
Begin Said Considering Shamir	N 5
Begin Holding Consultations	N 5
Sharon Reportedly Threatens Resignation	N 5
Sharon Threat Denied	N 6
Defense Establishment on Shamir	N 6
Former Chief of Staff on Shamir	N 7
NRP Opposed to Moda'i	N 7
Democrats Also Reject Moda'i	N 7
Liberals To Accept Begin's Choices	N 8
Liberals Will Not Urge Weizman To Return to Government	N 8
Weizman Reportedly To Continue Political Career	N 8
May Visit Egypt [MENA]	N 8

Report on Prime Minister Begin's Washington POST Interview	N 8
INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS	
OAU's Kodjo Comments on Giscard's Trialogue Proposal	Q 1
Stevens Promises Mediation of Conflicts as OAU Chairman	Q 1
ECOWAS Defense Pact Talks Produce Two Draft Projects	Q 1
Malian Delegate Details Objections to ECOWAS Defense Pact	Q 2
Upper Volta's Lamizana Arrives in Togo for ECOWAS Summit	Q 2
Liberia's Doe Barred From ECOWAS Summit Opening Session	Q 2
AFP Report	Q 2
Monrovia Radio Report	Q 2
EAST AFRICA	
ETHIOPIA	
Trade Ministry Delegation Leaves for USSR	R 1
KENYA	
Vice President Holds Talks With Zimbabwe Minister	R 1
SOMALIA	
WSLF Leader Addresses Regional Officials in Mogadishu	R 1
Mogadishu Commentator Rejects Ethiopian 'Lies'	R 1
UGANDA	
Military Commission Says Lule Free To Return	R 3
Kampala Reports Return of Obote on 27 May	R 3
Obote Speech at Rally	R 3
WEST AFRICA	
BENIN	
World Labor Federation Bureau Opens Meeting in Cotonou	T 1
GHANA	
Ruling Party To Hold Congress 30 May-1 June	T 1
Soldiers Involved in March 1980 Mutiny Sentenced	T 1
GUINEA	
Release of Prisoners, Commutation of Sentences Announced	T 2
LIBERIA	
Doe Accuses Businessmen of Threatening Economy	T 2
Doe Assures Businesses of Encouragement, Protection	T 3
TOGO	
President Receives African Envoys, Message From Brezhnev	T 3

V. 28 May 80

5

MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

UPPER VOLTA

New Supreme Court President, Others Appointed

T 3

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Text of Workers' Communique on South African Attacks

U 1

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda Outlines 'Basic Threats' to Nation

U 2

PLO VIEWS EUROPEAN INITIATIVES WITH 'GREAT CAUTION'

LD231141 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 14 May 80 p 11

[Interview given to Samir Sa'd ad-Din by PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Mushin Abu Mayzar--place and date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: How does the PLO official spokesman view the European parliament's call for the rejection of Resolution 242 in its present form, and what is the official position regarding this resolution?

Answer: The PLO declared its rejection of Security Council Resolution 242 when it was issued in 1967 because, basically and in its content, it consecrates the Zionist aggression and usurpation and obliterates the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people. Furthermore, it ignores the crux of the Arab-Israeli conflict and openly considers it a border issue between the Zionist entity and the neighboring Arab states. This means a denial of the Palestinian people's existence, their cause and their rights. Arab and other states joined the PLO in rejecting this resolution. The PLO translated its objection to and rejection of the aforementioned resolution into practice by continuing its struggle against it and by referring the Palestine issue to the 29th UN General Assembly session in 1974, when it succeeded in obtaining General Assembly Resolution 3236 which emphasized the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Thus, the unsuitability of Resolution 242 as a basis for settling the Middle East crisis, of which Palestine constitutes the crux, became clear to the whole world.

The European parliament's call for changing or amending Resolution 242 is due to the world's awareness of the futility and unsuitability of Resolution 242 as a basis for solving the Palestinian issue, which is not only a Palestinian, Arab and Islamic issue but has also become an international issue in the full sense of the word, and one of the burning issues. Failure to find a just solution to this issue constitutes a threat to international security and peace.

In addition to this the PLO views Resolution 242 as a continuation of the conspiracy on the Palestine question and Palestinian people's right of return and to self-determination.

Question: There has been much talk recently about a European initiative to solve the Middle East problem. What is PLO's opinion about a European initiative? Can the Jordanian [as published] move be made without coordination with the United States? What is the real British position in the European move?

Answer: It must be borne in mind that the European states have realized that their interests are threatened because the Palestinian problem continues to be unsolved, especially now that the Palestinian people and the Arab nation have rejected the Camp David agreements, and that they have become isolated on the Palestinian, Arab, Islamic and international levels. The European states also realize that their economic interests, and consequently their future are influenced by Middle East developments. This is what prompted French President Giscard d'Estaing to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to say that the Palestinian issue is an issue of people and not an issue of refugees. This is also what prompted the European parliament to call for changing or amending Resolution 242 and what is being said about European initiatives.

While putting these developments on record, we must take note of the following facts:

1--There is no unified European stand. There are European stands varying in degrees and nature toward the Middle East crisis and the effects which the current Middle East developments and changes have on them.

2--In their foreign policy, the European states are still not independent of the United States.

3--The European states still do not take a negative view of the Camp David agreements; in the best of circumstances they view some of their content regarding the Palestinian issue with reservations, but they do not reject them as a policy--something which makes any European initiative at present a kind of complementary effort to Camp David.

We must recall here that the British attitude to the Palestinian issue weakens the European move. It is known that Britain is the founder, sponsor and advocate of the Zionist plan in Palestine and the author of the Balfour declaration. It is historically responsible for the displacement and expulsion of the Palestinian people from their homeland. Britain is now working to weaken the European stand in favor of the Camp David agreements and Israel. Through our realization of the nature of the European stand and the factors that influence it negatively and positively, we in the PLO are strongly resisting the British attempts to put forward cosmetic formulas for Security Council Resolution 242 and to weaken the momentum of the European stand. In all this we have no illusions as to what stands and initiatives Europe can take in the light of the objective facts I have mentioned. Therefore, at a time when we find it beneficial and necessary to escalate our political and diplomatic struggle to explain our issue in Europe, deepen the European public's awareness of the justness of our struggle and work to achieve the widest recognition of our rights, we view with great caution the European, particularly the British attempts to circumvent the Arab and Palestinian stand which rejects the Camp David agreements.

Question: Every now and then we hear about agreement to resolve the Palestinian problem on the basis of the establishment of a federal unity between Jordan and Palestine. Shim'on Peres recently called in Washington for the need to resolve the problem between Jordan and Israel, but Jordanian officials rejected this call. What is PLO's opinion on what is being rumored and said?

Answer: It must be known that there are no plans put forward for a federal unity or confederation with Jordan. We in the PLO regard such plans put forward by any side as being in the interest neither of the Palestine cause nor of the fraternal Jordanian people. We realize and call on everyone else to realize that the Palestinian people's relations with the Jordanian people or any Arab country are not a cause of the Middle East conflict. Therefore, we appeal to everybody to believe that the establishment in advance of relations between Palestine and Jordan or any other Arab country cannot be a condition for solving the Middle East problem. Moreover, we warn of the dangers of such plans and attempts and say that their basic aim is to solve the Palestine issue in favor of the enemy and at the expense of the Arabs, especially at the expense of Jordan. What the Labor Party leaders are advocating with regard to the possibility of solving the Palestinian problem through and with Jordan are nothing more than continued Zionist and American attempts to circumvent the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and liquidate the Palestine issue in the interest of Israel and at the expense of the fraternal Palestinian and Jordanian peoples in particular and the Arabs in general.

Question: It has been reported that, when the Egyptians call for the application of self-rule in the Gaza sector, it means that they can apply it because of the special relations they have with the sector but not with the West Bank. What is the reality of this report?

Answer: The Palestinian people everywhere, at home and abroad, have declared their categorical rejection of and resistance to the self-rule conspiracy and emphasized their rallying around their inalienable national rights to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of their independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. The Palestinian people have expressed this stand by various means, in various ways, at various conferences and by demonstrations and disturbances.

The Camp David parties' representatives themselves have recognized at the self-rule talks that they have failed to persuade any sector of the Palestinian people to participate in the self-rule conspiracy. Failure will always be the fate of all the attempts aimed at dragging the Palestinians to such a conspiracy, because our people are aware that the self-rule plot means permanent slavery and permanent occupation of Palestine.

HAWATIMAH DISCUSSES FATAH PLAN FOR SETTLEMENT

LD251304 Kuwait KUNA in English 1126 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Kuwait, May 25 (KUNA)--A radical Palestinian guerrilla leader Sunday strongly criticized a plan for the settlement of the Middle East problem presented by one of the leaders of the largest guerrilla group, Al-Fatah, to a recent meeting of West European officials. Nayif Hwatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), described the plan submitted by Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Al-Fatah's Central Committee, to the European parliamentary meeting in Strasbourg as "suspicious." He said the plan falls within the context of the Camp David agreement between Egypt and Israel and attempts to modify U.N. Security Council Resolution 242.

He said the five-point plan totally ignores the Palestine Liberation Organization and refers to the Palestinians in the same terms used by the Americans and the Europeans. Hawatimah said one point in the plan calls for self-determination for the Palestinians without mentioning their right to establish their own state. The plan also calls for Israeli withdrawal to the pre-1967 borders and for placing occupied territories under United Nations' supervision for a period of one year. The U.N. will then conduct a plebiscite to find out what kind of government the Palestinians would like to have. The U.N. will help the Palestinians to establish a state of their own if they choose independence.

After these procedures are over, negotiations will be conducted with the participation of the Soviet Union and the United States for the settlement of the problems of refugees and other outstanding differences. Hawatimah said the plan falls within the context of the United Kingdom scheme which calls for annexation of the West Bank to Jordan, thus opening the door for various types of self-determination. He said Khalid al-Hasan wants to place the liberated territories under U.N. supervision, thus ignoring the PLO's political platform urging direct national independence without Arab or international guardianship. He said the plan makes no mention of the repatriation of refugees, thus coinciding with resettlement plans. He urged Al-Hasan to throw "in the waste paper basket" his five-point plan and any other plan that contradicts the PLO's program for a liberated Palestine.

BAHRAIN

HEIR APPARENT LEAVES FOR MOROCCO ON VISIT

JN260642 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0545 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Manama, 26 May--His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander in chief of the defence forces, left Manama for Rabat today on a visit of several days to Morocco. The visit comes in response to an invitation by Prince 'Abdallah, the Moroccan king's brother.

FINANCE MINISTER LEAVES FOR SPAIN 28 MAY

JN280619 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0605 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Manama, 28 May--Bahraini Finance and National Economy Minister Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim left Manama for Spain this morning on a visit of several days. During the visit the Bahraini minister will hold talks with Spanish officials on bilateral economic relations. The Bahraini minister is accompanied by Dr Jasim al-Mana'i, acting director of the Finance and National Economy Ministry's planning and economic affairs department.

SAUDI INDUSTRY MINISTER ARRIVES FOR MEETINGS

JN271906 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1850 GMT 27 May 80

[Excerpts] Manama, 27 May--Saudi Industry and Electricity Minister Dr Ghazi 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Qusaybi arrived in Manama this evening on an official visit of several days to Bahrain. In a statement to the GULF NEWS AGENCY upon arrival, Al-Qusaybi said that his visit to Bahrain is for the purpose of attending the meetings of the board of directors of the Elba Company, which will be held in Bahrain tomorrow. He added that the visit is also for the purpose of signing an agreement on founding the Gulf company for petrochemicals. This agreement is to be signed on Thursday.

KUWAIT

POLISARIO OFFICIAL DENIES CUBAN TROOPS' PRESENCE

LD231214 Kuwait KUNA in English 1117 GMT 23 May 80

[Text] Kuwait, May 23 (KUNA)--An official of the POLISARIO Front denied here Friday the presence of Cuban or foreign troops fighting with his front against Morocco.

Interviewed by AS-SIYASAH newspaper, Mohamed Saydati, a minister in the Western Sahara Democratic Republic, said his people are fighting a war in which weapons from the U.S., France, Egypt and South Africa are savagely used against them.

He added that Morocco has hired officers and instructors from these countries to fight against the people of the Western Sahara. Accusing France of helping the Moroccan Air Force to strike against POLISARIO positions, he also said that the front's fighters were able to take over 37 South Africa-made (M Cassetta) tanks in recent battles with the Moroccan forces.

Hailing the recent resolution by the Arab steadfastness front in recognizing the Western Sahara Republic, Saydati regretted reluctance by other Arab countries to recognize his republic.

Saydati arrived here yesterday leading a front delegation on a tour in a number of Arab countries "to clarify to the Arab public opinion the tragedy suffered by the Saharan people as a result of the aggression on their land and rights".

Calling for the Arab world to help put an end to the six-year war of the Sahara, Saydati said "silence and neutrality are unacceptable and it is sad enough that our cause has gained immense support from the African and American countries while it has failed to win the minimum support in the Arab world".

EXPLOSIONS PARTIALLY DESTROY KUWAITI OFFICES OF IRAN AIR

NC269627 Paris AFP in English 0722 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Kuwait, May 26, (AFP)--Two explosions today partly destroyed the Kuwait offices of Iran Air, the Iranian national airline, informed sources said. There were no victims. The explosions, separated by a five-minute interval, were believed to have been caused deliberately, the source said.

Official Investigation

LD261050 Kuwait KUNA in English 2008 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Kuwait, May 26, (KUNA)--Two explosions rocked the offices of Iran Air here early Monday causing minor material damages. Governor of the capital Sheikh Salim Sabah al-Nasir told KUNA the first explosion took place at 0630 and was followed by a milder one 5 minutes later, destroying the glass front of the office and the windows of a nearby office.

The governor said the explosions did not cause any human casualties because they took place prior to office hours and at a time the area, on Fahd al-Salim Street, was empty of pedestrians. He added that no suspects had been arrested so far.

Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir rushed to the scene for inspection and issued instructions to security men to take required measures. Investigations were conducted by the governor, the attorney general, the director of the general department of public security, the director of the capital security, and senior Interior Ministry officials. Sappers were called to the scene to determine causes of the explosions and to search the area. The Ministry of Interior is expected to issue a detailed statement on the incident later today.

OMAN

PETROLEUM MINISTRY ANNOUNCES HIKE IN CRUDE PRICE

LD251712 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] A responsible source at the Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals has announced that in conformity with the price rises imposed by a number of oil-producing countries, the Government of the Sultanate of Oman has decided to raise the price of Omani crude oil by \$2 per barrel with retroactive effect from 1 May. Thus, the cost per barrel of crude oil will be \$32.2 instead of \$30.2.

Official Comment

LD241526 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] His Excellency Salim Shaban, under secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals, has said that the sultanate is currently studying the possibility of raising the price of Omani petroleum by an amount similar to the rises effected by neighboring states so as to maintain the difference between the prices of Oman and neighboring states.

In a statement to OMAN, published today, the under secretary said that the sultanate's production of petroleum would reach 350,000 barrels per day by the end of this year. He said that the sultanate would maintain production at this level for 5 years, in keeping with the next 5-year plan.

His excellency also said that the sultanate has no intention of joining OPEC and that by staying outside this organization Oman has a freer hand in drawing up its oil policy and is consequently more flexible and efficient in following its own oil policy.

Concerning dollar transactions for the sale of the sultanate's oil, his excellency said that the OPEC states have been unable to reach a collective decision on an alternative currency. He stressed that the sultanate shares with the oil-producing countries the common problem of the falling dollar. (He hopes) that they will be able to reach a reasonable formula for cooperation to ensure a proper return on their (oil).

Concerning the agreement recently concluded between the government and the Oman oil development company and its consequences, his excellency said that according to the agreement the sultanate's government will own 60 percent and the company 40 percent of all discoveries made by the company in the concession area.

SAUDI ARABIA

INFORMATION MINISTER: NEGOTIATED PEACE WITH ISRAEL POSSIBLE

NC280732 AFP in English 0721 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Beirut, May 28 (AFP)--Saudi Arabia's information minister confirmed in an interview published here today that his government would try to get Arab countries to negotiate peace with Israel if it announced the intention of evacuating Arab territories occupied in 1967.

The minister, Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani, said a statement to that effect by Crown Prince Fahd last week was a reiteration of long-standing Saudi policy. "We would have liked our words to be understood a long time ago, but we are only finding attentive ears now," Shaykh Yamani told the Lebanese newspaper AL-ANHAR. He said, "We favour peace and any settlement that satisfies the battlefield countries (adjacent to Israel) and the Palestinians." Saudi Arabia also wants "normalization of the situation in Jerusalem," he was quoted as saying.

Saudi Arabia continues to oppose the Camp David negotiations between Israel and Egypt because they do not assure the Palestinians of the right "to found an independent state," Shaykh Yamani said.

In an interview in the Washington POST today, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin commented that Prince Fahd would be welcome to come to Jerusalem to explain his plan for negotiations. Mr. Begin said the Saudi conditions for negotiating were "totally unacceptable" for Israel but that "perhaps" the prince could "convince me."

CROWN PRINCE FAHD CLARIFIES SAUDI STAND ON PALESTINE

ID280200 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2242 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has made a statement to MAP, stressing the kingdom's clear and constant attitude toward the Palestinian issue.

He explained that this attitude derives from the unanimous Arab stand which is represented by the fact that the question of Palestine is the core of the Middle East problem, and that a just and comprehensive solution cannot be achieved unless Israel withdraws from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967, first and foremost holy Jerusalem. His royal highness also dealt with the nature and aims of his visit to Morocco. The following is the text of the statement:

Question: May we ask Your Highness about the nature and aims of your visit to the Kingdom of Morocco?

Answer: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Kingdom of Morocco are two fraternal Muslim and Arab countries whose relations are exemplary and excellent. With such fraternal relations, it is only natural that officials in both countries should conduct consultations with the aim of further strengthening these bilateral ties, exchanging views and continuing consultations on issues that concern the Arab and Muslim nations. I have come to this hospitable country and have met with my brother, His Majesty King Hassan, within this framework.

Question: Your tour includes visits to Morocco and Algeria. Can we conclude that your visit to both countries falls within the good efforts to resolve the Sahara problem?

Answer: What concerns Saudi Arabia and the entire Arab nation is that bilateral relations between Morocco and Algeria are fraternal and good. We are interested to see good and fraternal relations among all Arab countries. The Arab nation is passing through a stage in which it needs most of all a spirit of fraternity in its relations, and also solidarity, from which it derives its strength and on which it can rely in order to achieve its goals and bring about just and desirable solutions to its problems.

Question: There have been news agency reports about Your Highness' statement to the Washington POST, indicating that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has a new attitude toward the process of the peaceful solution of the Middle East problem. What is Your Highness' comment in this regard?

Answer: Some Arab and foreign newspapers have commented on this statement, as have some states, directly or through their information media, in a manner that contains a distorted interpretation and explanation of the facts contained in it. By this they are trying to portray Saudi Arabia as a supporter of the negotiations in the current peace process, or as if Saudi Arabia is prepared to propose its own or (?disguised) initiative on this issue.

What is certain is that the Saudi attitude toward the Middle East problem and the issue of Palestine is firm, clear and recognized; it derives from the unanimous Arab attitude which is represented by the fact that the Palestinian issue is the core of the Middle East problem; and that a just and comprehensive solution to the problem cannot be achieved unless Israel withdraws from all Arab territories which were occupied in 1967, including--first and foremost--holy Jerusalem, to which Arab sovereignty must be restored.

Any solution of the Palestinian issue cannot achieve justice and peace unless it is based on the recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to return and to self-determination, including the establishment of an independent state on their territory.

In all this, Saudi Arabia pursues a unanimous Arab attitude to which it is committed and which it supports. To achieve this, it constantly stands by the Arab confrontation states whose territories have been occupied, and also by the Palestinian people whose rights have been usurped and who are represented by the Palestine Liberation Organization. Saudi Arabia cannot propose any initiative, welcome any idea, or accept any resolution or negotiations with any party--directly or indirectly--outside the framework of Arab unanimity.

The firm attitude of Saudi Arabia on this issue has been asserted and has a degree of clarity which does not allow any interpretation, explanation or independent judgment which may attempt to distort, obliterate or confuse this stand. Saudi Arabia, while supporting the attainment of these goals by peaceful means if possible, pursues in this a unanimous Arab attitude. The peaceful means which Saudi Arabia supports must realize right and justice, and also a comprehensive solution which is derived from a stand that represents the unanimous Arab will.

'UKAZ SEES PARALLELS BETWEEN SOVIET, ISRAELI AGGRESSION

LD271345 Jiddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 20 May 80 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Excerpts] Future actions by the Islamic countries are becoming clear in the light of the Islamabad foreign ministers conference. When the conference declares that it will ask the Security Council to impose economic sanctions on Israel because of its aggressive attitude toward the problem of Jerusalem in particular and Palestine in general, it will be placing a double responsibility on the Security Council which has to prove its effectiveness in facing up to aggression even if in so doing it clashes with the U.S. veto which protects Israel.

The escalation of the Islamic role in confronting Israel is a necessity dictated by the struggle against the Zionist military establishment's aggression against the Islamic holy places. The Islamic countries are likewise duty bound to confront the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, which has revealed the true face of communism which is trying to attract Islamic forces and countries to it and to impede the Islamic tide that advocates human freedom and the resistance of the forces of atheism and aggression represented by the Soviet Union.

Soviet policy always agrees with the Zionist policy of the Israeli military establishment which is spreading destruction in occupied Palestine, despite the apparent differences between the two countries. Zionism is the other face of communism and, therefore, we cannot confront only one side and leave the other. Rather both should be confronted objectively and decisively so that the Arab and Islamic struggle will achieve its objectives.

The Islamic conference, as it rejected the proposal of the agent regime in Afghanistan has proved its ability to see the reality and be aware of the real danger represented by the Russian invasion of an Islamic country. When the conference simultaneously calls for the isolation of Israel from the world community and the imposition of economic sanctions, it is because it is well aware of the close ties between the Soviet and Israeli conspiracies and aggression. Both are the spearhead of aggression, destroyers of peoples' values, and a means of domination, subjugation and the imposition of policies contrary to laws, justice, right and peace.

EEC APPROACH TO PALESTINE PROBLEM FAVORED

LD232245 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 May 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The failure of the negotiations on the so-called autonomy for the West Bank and the Gaza sector has led the decisionmakers in the EEC to embark on a cautious move to prevent the situation in the Middle East from further deterioration while the possibilities of a comprehensive and just peace in the region are receding. In spite of realizing the fact of the intransigence and obduracy of the Tel Aviv rulers, the American administration did not take part in the Security Council vote on a resolution dealing with an important step which could give rise to hopes of a settlement. Israel's pursuit of a policy governed by the theory of force to empty the occupied areas of their population is a matter which exposes what sort of peace Israel seeks to achieve its interests at the expense of the Arab inhabitants.

The hasty decision by the American administration to ignore the recent resolution of the Security Council denied it an opportunity to strengthen its position toward the Arab side and to show signs of justice and clarity within the framework of its efforts to establish peace between Arabs and Jews. The recent American attitude was an extension of previous stances, the last of which was to prevent the adoption of an international resolution in April last year calling for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and the withdrawal of Israel from territory occupied in 1967, including occupied Jerusalem.

Those stances are the result of the role played by the Zionist lobby and its continued influence on American decisionmaking, which helps realize the obstacles Israel puts on the road to peace in the region. This makes it necessary to support the Western efforts, perhaps because they enjoy qualities the American administration at present lacks. The EEC group bases its calculations on common interests which are linked with the Middle East region. Although they are first and foremost economic calculations, their ramifications connected with security and international stability represent the general framework which governs the European attitude which has begun to turn toward a new formula for peace in the region taking into account the basic pillars for this peace, whether by giving attention to the realization of the lawful rights of the Palestinian people and solving the Jerusalem question or by rejecting the arrogance of the Tel Aviv rulers along the road of real and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Of course, if the American administration was anxious to continue its role which began with the Camp David agreement, this should never be at the price of creating tension and crisis in the region as a result of persistent Israeli disregard of the basic elements of stability in the region.

FRG FINANCE MINISTER ARRIVES IN RIYADH

LD241841 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] Riyadh--West German Minister of Finance Hans Matthoefer arrived in Riyadh this evening on a 1-day visit to the Kingdom. He was received at the airport by His Excellency Minister of Finance Shatkh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, a number of senior officials at the ministry and the West German ambassador to the kingdom. [Words indistinct]

Bilateral Relations

LD251730 Hamburg DPA in German 1523 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Riyadh--Federal Finance Minister Hans Matthoefer met 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister of Saudi Arabia, in Riyadh today. They discussed ways of deepening bilateral relations. Matthoefer arrived in Riyadh yesterday on a 2-day visit and last night had his first talk with Saudi Finance and Economy Minister Shaykh Muhammad al-Ali Aba al-Khayl. According to a Saudi radio report, they discussed international monetary affairs. The Federal Finance Ministry said that the minister's agenda does not include credit negotiations.

Some months ago the Federal Government took up credits in Saudi Arabia totaling some DM 3 billion to ease the German balance of payments position which is in deficit due to the rise in oil prices. As well as the OECD countries, the World Bank, U.S. and European banks, Saudi Arabia is participating in financial aid for Turkey, which Matthoefer had arranged.

Monetary Stability, Inflation

LD261310 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1015 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Riyadh--Saudi Arabia and West Germany have stressed their desire for a stable international monetary system because monetary stability and economic growth are interrelated. They have agreed to continue close cooperation in this area. The two countries in a press statement issued today on the visit of Hans Matthoefer, German finance minister, and his talks with Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy, expressed their fears about the world's inflation rates and welcomed the increasing efforts exerted by many countries to counter inflation. The statement added that the Saudi and German sides discussed international political and economic questions and bilateral relations between the two countries and the means to strengthen these relations.

The two ministers welcomed the good relations between the two countries which are built on understanding and confidence and which are reflected in the repeated meetings of the joint Saudi-German committee for economic cooperation and the numerous contacts by representatives of the two governments and businessmen.

The German finance minister praised Saudi Arabia's constructive role to realise political and economic stability in the Middle East and the whole world. The Saudi and German ministers stressed the need for devising new ways to quickly refinance the current deficits in the balances of payments in view of the current imbalance in the international finance field.

The two ministers, the statement added, believe that the present means and channels are sufficient to provide the necessary required financing. They also stressed the need to speed up adaptation of long-term economic developments, particularly through increasing the efforts being exerted to preserve energy.

The German minister pointed out the importance of avoiding any new complications, either in terms of the quantities of oil available or its prices. The two ministers agreed that the IMF should play a bigger role and should devise ways to finance the deficits in the balances of payments. The statement added that the two sides will cooperate with the IMF to reach this goal.

Regarding the proposed substitution accounts, the two sides expressed their support in general on this and said that the matter still requires further detailed study and consultation with IMF officials. The two ministers expressed concern about the economic and humanitarian problems resulting from the deteriorating world economic situation and the increase in sufferings that it brought to the less-developed countries in the community of developing countries.

The two ministers affirmed once more their desire to increase aid to developing countries. In this regard, Matthofer said that the FRG has greatly increased its foreign aid in past years and that this aid will continue and grow in the future. Shaykh Aba al-Khayl briefed his German counterpart on the foreign aid allocations in the Saudi budget.

PDRY

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD LEAVES FOR SYRIA

LD251500 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 25 May 80

[Summary] 'Ali Nasir Muhammad left Aden for Syria today, accompanied by Muhammad Salih Muti, 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Wali and 'Ali 'Abd ar-Razzaq, members of the Political Bureau and secretaries of the Central Committee; Salim Salih Muhammad, foreign minister; and 'Abdalluh al-Khamiri, minister of state for cabinet affairs.

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD VISITS SOVIET UNION

For Soviet reportage on the speeches by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, general secretary of the South Yemen Socialist Party Central Committee and chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, at a 27 May Kremlin dinner given in his honor, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 28 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

YAR

INFORMATION MINISTER LEAVES FOR MOSCOW 27 MAY

JN270836 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0805 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Sa'a', 27 May--YAR Information and Culture Minister Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi left for Moscow this morning on a visit of several days to the Soviet Union. Al-'Arashi said that he will hold talks with the Soviet culture minister on bilateral cultural cooperation and the signing of a technical cooperation agreement between the two countries.

COMMITTEE TO PREPARE FOR GENERAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS FORMED

JN272105 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 May 80

[Text of decision issued in San'a' by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on 27 May 1980 forming a committee to prepare for the General People's Congress]

[Text] The political leadership

Out of its awareness of the importance and desire to create an integrated national forum based on our legacy and modern thinking and in accordance with the principles and objectives of the glorious September revolution and the immortal teachings, ideals and sublime principles of Islam for the purpose of guaranteeing public and individual freedoms, the exercise of democracy and consultation, the tackling of social issues and the application of the law with regard to all manifestations and forms of exploitation and injustice;

Out of its belief in the importance and necessity of an integrated forum to strengthen and entrench national unity by unifying the various national forces and elements on firm bases and in accordance with common ideas and concepts commensurate with the national line followed by the political leadership since assuming power, a course which aims at building a society enjoying democracy, justice, equality and prosperity, a society free of all conflicts and frictions;

In furtherance of the practical steps which have already been taken to apply democracy and achieve social justice;

Acting upon its belief in the importance of introducing a national charter which will chart our society's present and future courses and steer national action toward all our national and pan-Arab objectives as well as humanitarian ideals;

Out of its desire to enable all the sons of our people to exercise their right to participate in setting up their national forum and out of its awareness of the importance of conducting a dialog to learn of the opinions of the citizens on a national charter which expresses their will, beliefs, hopes and national aspirations;

And, after holding consultations with the various official and popular establishments and all the national forces and elements in accordance with the public interests;

Decides:

Article One: A committee for national dialog to prepare for the General People's Congress shall be formed under the chairmanship of Husayn 'Abdallah al-Maqdami and shall consist of the following members: Ahmad ash-Shajni, Dr 'Abd al-Wahid az-Zambili, Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Husayni, Tamim 'Abdallah Abu Luhum, Ahmad Yahya al-'Imad, 'Ali Qasim al-Muayyad, Muhammad ibn Muhammad al-Mansur, Ahmad 'Ali al-Matari, Ahmad Jabir 'Afif, Ahmad Qasim ad-Dammaj, 'Abduh 'Ali 'Uthman, Hamud 'Atif, 'Abdallah al-Bashiri, Yahya ash-Shami, Ahmad Salim al-'Awadi, Salih 'Ubad al-Khawlani, 'Abd al-Jalil an-Nawiri, Isma'il al-Khadri, Dr Abu Bakr al-Qirbi, Sadiq Amin Abu Ras, Muhammad ar-Rababi, Ahmad al-Khattabi, 'Abdallah 'Atiyah, 'Abd al-Malik Mansur, Ibrahim Muhammad al-Wazir, Yahya 'Abdallah ash-Shaiq, 'Ali Ahmad at-Tayyani, Muhammad al-Mahatwiri, 'Abd as-Salam Khalid, Dr Abu Bakr as-Saqqaf, Ahmad Shintan ad-Dali, 'Ali 'Utub, Ahmad Luqman, Muhammad Isma'il an-Nu'mi, 'Abdallah al-Hajwarah, Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Jayifi, Yahya al-Bishari, 'Ali Yahya al-'Adi, 'Abd al-Qawi, al-Humayqani, Sulayman al-Farah, Husayn Jarallah, Ahmad Ha'im Sa'id an-'Am, 'Abd al-Hamid Sayf al-Haddi, Qa'id al-Hirwi, 'Abdallah Sallam al-Hakimi, 'Alawi Husayn al-'Attas, 'Abd al-Wahid Hawwash, Muhammad ibn Muhammad an-Nuzayli, 'Ali 'Abd Rabbuh al-Qadi and Muhammad ash-Shaybani.

Article Two: The committee shall seek the opinions and viewpoints of the citizens on basic issues concerning the homeland and learn about their aspirations and ideas on the basis of the draft national charter submitted to it. The committee shall distribute copies of this charter to the citizens and use it as a working paper which can be amended or changed in accordance with the views of the citizens and the various national forces, factions and elements interviewed by the committee.

Article Three: A) The committee shall prepare a questionnaire. This questionnaire shall be distributed with copies of the draft national charter. This is to enable the citizens to express their opinions and viewpoints on all issues and thoughts incorporated in the draft charter.

B) It is permissible for the committee to form from among its members or others any number of subcommittees it deems necessary to help it with its work in seeking opinions and suggestions on the draft national charter. The committee shall steer the work and determine the powers of such subcommittees. The subcommittees shall be headed by members of the committee.

C) The committee shall compile the information obtained from the questionnaire and the dialog with the various national forces and elements and use it as a guide in preparing the final draft of the national charter for submission to the General People's Congress for discussion and approval.

D) After preparing the final draft of the national charter, the committee shall submit its findings to the president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, who shall then call the General People's Congress to convene.

E) The committee may make any recommendations regarding the General People's Congress to the president of the republic and the commander in chief of the armed forces on the basis of its contacts and work.

F) The government shall provide all assistance to the committee in the performance of its task and the carrying out of its responsibility. All government departments shall also give all facilities to the committee and subcommittees to enable them to perform their task in the best manner possible to remove any obstacles.

Article Four: This decision shall go into force as of the date of its issuance and shall be published in the official gazette.

Issued by the presidential palace in San'a' on 13 Rajab 1400 Hegira, correspondent to 27 May 1980

[Signed] Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces

PRESIDENT SALIH RECEIVES PDY OFFICIAL 24 MAY

AN241304 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] At 1130 this morning President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih received brother Muhammad Salih Muti', Political Bureau member and Central Committee secretary in the southern part of the homeland. Muti' conveyed to President Salih a verbal message from his brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Supreme People's Council, secretary general of the Central Committee and prime minister in the southern part of the homeland.

The meeting was attended by Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for foreign affairs and foreign minister and Lt Col Husayn ad-Daf'i, consultative council member and president's adviser for unity affairs.

Brother Muti' arrived in San'a' this morning. In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, he said that he would convey to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih a message from his brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. He said his visit is part of the meetings between the officials of both parts of Yemen for consultation and exchange of views on implementing what has been agreed upon for achieving Yemeni unity.

AL-AHRAM: U.S. DECIDES TO EXPEDITE DELIVERY OF F-16 PLANES

NC270603 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2207 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 27 May--The Wednesday issue of AL-AHRAM quotes informed sources in Washington as saying that the United States has agreed to speed up the delivery of the 40 F-16 planes which were sold to Egypt.

The paper says that according to reliable sources in Washington the U.S. Defense Department decided to deliver to Egypt 30 of these planes, which have recently been produced and earmarked for the U.S. Air Force. The first of these planes is expected to arrive in Egypt by the end of this year.

It is worth noting that the talks which Vice President Husni Mubarak held in Washington during the past week dealt with rescheduling the delivery of some of the military equipment sold to Egypt in addition to political issues.

AL-AHRAM: AUTONOMY TALKS EXPECTED TO RESUME IN 2 WEEKS

NC280718 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0700 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 28 May--Quoting U.S. official sources, the newspaper AL-AHRAM today says that the negotiations for full Palestinian autonomy are expected to be resumed by Egypt, Israel and the United States during the next 2 weeks.

These sources said that a new formula for resuming the negotiations for full Palestinian autonomy is being prepared and an agreement on this formula is expected by the end of this week. These sources added that they are optimistic with regard to reaching an agreement on the autonomy issue during the next few months.

Contradictory AL-AHRAM Report

NC272243 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2215 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 27 May--In its Wednesday issue, the Cairo newspaper AL-AHRAM says that it has learned that Egypt is asking for sufficient guarantees and assurances that the establishment of settlements will be stopped; that the issue of security will be discussed, that any new decisions on the status of Jerusalem will be suspended, that normal life will be restored in the occupied territories, and that a suitable atmosphere will be created to encourage the Palestinians to support the peace process.

The paper has also learned that Egypt has not proposed to the United States the resumption of the talks until next spring. [sentence as received]

The paper quotes Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali as saying that the disagreement between Egypt and Israel on the autonomy talks is summed up in three points:

--Israel's establishment of new settlements, its expansion of existing ones and its announcements on establishing other settlements in the future.

--A draft resolution that the Knesset is debating on the annexation of Arab Jerusalem.

--The use of violence in the treatment of the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK ARRIVES IN LONDON FOR TALKS

NC271036 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0943 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] London, 27 May--At 1110 Cairo time today, Vice President Husni Mubarak arrived in London from Bonn on a 1-day visit. During the visit, he will have discussions with British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington.

Mubarak was met at the airport by Egyptian Ambassador in London Hasan Abu Sa'dah and by Lord Carrington's personal representative Brig (Louis White).

Remarks After Thatcher, Carrington Meetings

NC272220 Paris AFP in English 2210 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] London, May 27 (AFP)--Egypt is ready to restart the suspended Palestinian autonomy talks any time Israel abandons its current policies towards its occupied Arab territories, Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak said here today.

After meeting with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, Mr Mubarak also said it is essential that Palestinians be represented in the negotiations.

Egypt's goal is to get Israel and the Palestinians to the negotiating table, but the two must recognize each other, he said. He denied that Egypt is trying to isolate the Palestinians.

Mr Mubarak, who arrived here today from Washington, also said Israel must accept a formula to end its occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and give Palestinians a right to control their territories.

He appealed to Israel to end its policy of creating new Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, and denounced Israel's new draft law calling for annexation of East Jerusalem. A reinforced Israeli presence on the Jordanian West Bank and the Gaza Strip contravenes the Camp David Middle East peace accords, Mr Mubarak said.

Mr Mubarak indicated that certain European countries support enlarging the negotiations, but warned against outside interventions that would not aid the peace process.

He said his talks in London and Washington were aimed at explaining Egypt's stand on the negotiations, adding that both countries understand Egypt's good intentions.

Mr Mubarak, accompanied by Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Usamah al-Baz, is to go to Bonn tomorrow.

Under Secretary's Press Conference

NC270635 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2205 GMT 27 May 80

[Excerpts] London, 27 May--Egyptian Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz has affirmed Egypt's readiness to resume the autonomy negotiations without preconditions.

At a meeting with British and Egyptian journalists in London this evening Dr al-Baz pointed out that Egypt is ready to resume the negotiations at any time, and it has no conditions. Egypt had previously insisted on continuing these negotiations without conditions.

He added: However, we discovered in Herzliyya that Israel has put forth four points which it had not previously presented to us. These are the points which Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin presented during his visit to the United States. We officially rejected these points, and our principle is still to continue the negotiations without conditions.

Dr al-Baz said that Egypt has asked Israel to refrain from taking any decisions, issuing any statements, or making any attempts which are liable to affect the fate of the negotiations.

Dr al-Baz affirmed Egypt's rejection of the policy of the establishment of settlements or the expansion of existing ones as something unacceptable which hinders the peace process.

He also affirmed that all points are subject to negotiation, and Israel has no right to strike out any of these points, change their status, avoid discussing them or impose a fait accompli.

Dr al-Baz stressed the need for the Israelis to suspend the moves regarding the draft resolution on Jerusalem, to stop the establishment of settlements, and to abide by their promise to take some measures in Gaza and the West Bank to ease the political tension there and create an atmosphere which can help attract the Palestinians to the peace process.

Asked about the European initiative, Dr al-Baz said that this initiative should be a driving force rather than just a decision. It should also be a decision that can be implemented by the influential sides, particularly the United States, which has influence in this matter.

Dr al-Baz pointed out that what is important to Egypt is that any move should provide the opportunity for making peace and should be a move that can be implemented, and not just a restatement of positions or an attempt to embarrass some sides.

He said that any move should be designed to end the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and foster the establishment of Palestinian authority there.

Asked what a European initiative should involve, Dr al-Baz said that the Palestinians have the right to self-determination like any other people, and that Israel should recognize the Palestinian existence. This recognition should be translated into the establishment of a state linked to Jordan or to any other state in the region. This must be left for the Palestinians to decide.

Dr al-Baz said that, at the same time, he calls on the Palestinians to recognize Israel and its right to exist.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry under secretary explained that the problem is not who should represent the Palestinians; the problem is solving the Palestinian problem and accepting the Palestinian rights. The Israelis have no right to decide who should represent the Palestinians, because this is a purely Palestinian matter and there should be no outside interference in it.

Dr al-Baz said that there are many Palestinians who want to accept the present formula as a beginning, particularly since this settlement is not final. He pointed out that the reason for their absence now is due to the Israeli statements and stands, which aim primarily at removing the Palestinians, because their participation would increase the pressure on Israel.

Dr al-Baz said that the Camp David agreements as understood by Egypt and the United States and not as understood by Israel must be implemented.

In this respect Dr al-Baz praised the United States for understanding the Egyptian position, logic and legitimate demands. He expressed hope that the United States and Europe would use their influence with Israeli public opinion to prompt Israel to take a constructive stand that would increase the chances for positive action.

Dr al-Baz pointed out that the Israeli intervention in Lebanon is one of the factors increasing the gravity of the situation.

Asked about Vice President Husni Mubarak's visit to London, Dr al-Baz said that the purpose of this visit was to brief the British Government on the present situation in the negotiations. Dr al-Baz described the results of the Egyptian vice president's consultations in London as extremely positive. The British officials received with great understanding and interest the Egyptian viewpoint. This also applies to the results of Mubarak's visit to Bonn.

FOREIGN MINISTER 'ALI COMMENTS ON PRINCE FAHD'S STATEMENT

NC261535 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that the recent statement of His Highness Prince Fahd actually expresses the efforts Egypt has been exerting to achieve peace in the area. He said that the question has not been solved by the target date because of Israeli intransigence.

'Ali said that Prince Fahd's statement is a message to Israel that the Arab countries are ready to have peace with Israel if it gives up the territories it occupied in 1967.

'Ali said that the concept of the statement does not differ at all from the steps Egypt has taken and is taking.

'ALI ON AUTONOMY NEGOTIATIONS, MILITARY FACILITIES FOR U.S.

NC271553 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak is due back in Cairo from Britain tomorrow at the end of his tour of the United States, West Germany and Britain, during which he held talks on developments in the Middle East crisis.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that the vice president will submit a report to President Anwar as-Sadat on the bases agreed upon regarding the autonomy negotiations. In its contacts with the United States, 'Ali said, Egypt explained the reasons for suspending the autonomy negotiations: Israel's continuous announcements about the building of new settlements, its position on Jerusalem, and the treatment of the Arab people in the occupied territories.

He said that Egypt asked for U.S. assurances to create the right atmosphere for resuming the negotiations.

In conclusion, 'Ali said that the situation would become clear to the three parties after the current consultations and that the date for resuming the negotiations would be determined accordingly.

Meanwhile, Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that when Egypt provided facilities for the United States, it did so to enable it to help any Arab country subjected to invasion or under the threat of invasion--like what happened in Afghanistan--provided that such help was requested and approved by the Arab state in question. He added: There is a difference between facilities and military bases. Egypt has not and will never give military bases to any state.

STATE MINISTER GHALI ON EUROPEAN INITIATIVE, FAHD STATEMENT

AU271557 Rome ANSA in English 1520 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Cairo, May 27 (ANSA)--The Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Butrus Ghali, declared today that Egypt would welcome a coordinated European initiative aimed at settling the Palestinian problem now that the May 26 deadline for winding up Egyptian-Israeli-United States negotiations on Palestinian autonomy in the Israeli-occupied territories has come and gone.

In a statement to ANSA shortly before his departure for Rome to begin a visit to Italy, the Egyptian minister said that any European moves on the matter should be "complementary" to efforts conducted thus far within the framework of the Camp David accord. "Contradictions and a duplication of effort which may turn out to be counterproductive must be avoided", Ghali warned.

He went on to declare that his stay in Italy "will be very important for both countries" and motivated consultations in Rome on the requirement to illustrate the Egyptian position with reference to the most recent developments in the Middle East situation and gathering information on any initiatives for the settlement of the Palestinian problem the European Economic Community might be formulating. [sentence as received] Italy currently holds the term chairmanship of the EEC Council of Ministers.

Speaking of the May 26 deadline for the Palestinian home-rule talks written into the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty of last year, the state minister for foreign affairs said that "the negotiations are still at high sea.

"We would like to know what form a (European) initiative might take, whether it will be a simple resolution or a real plan of action, and what consultations the European Community has entered into or intends to conduct, especially with the United States, in order to avoid duplicated efforts and contradictions", Ghali explained.

The minister once again affirmed that, "as far as we are concerned, we have no reservations about a European intervention. There is no incompatibility between the two actions. They can be conducted alongside each other so long as they are well coordinated and complementary".

Ghali then referred to the two latest developments in the Middle East represented by the resignation of Israeli Defense Minister Ezer Weizman and the interview of Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, published in the Sunday edition of the Washington POST, in which he affirmed that Saudi Arabia would seek to involve all the Arab states in a comprehensive Mideast peace settlement if Israel withdraws from the occupied Arab territories.

The Egyptian minister declined to pass judgement on the crown prince's statement and merely said: "It is a new fact. This is certain, but it is still too early to assess its importance".

Ghali also refused to say whether Egypt and Saudi Arabia had been in contact in the period leading up to the spectacular policy shift in Riyadh.

Drawing attention to a different area, the Egyptian diplomat said that "Italy has special interests for Africa and there are frequent consultations between Rome and Cairo on these matters, political consultations which also touch on the dangers to which Africa is exposed".

In reply to a question on whether his talks in Rome will include troubled relations between Libya and Egypt and Libyan leader Mu'ammarr al-Quadhafi, Ghali quipped, "Unfortunately, we are always forced to deal with mental cases...."

GHALI LEAVES 27 MAY FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO ITALY

NC271244 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 27 May--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today left Cairo for Rome on a 3-day visit.

During the visit, Ghali will meet with Prime Minister Francesco Cossiga and Minister of Foreign Affairs Emilio Colombo in order to outline to them Egypt's efforts for solving the Palestinian question, which Egypt views as the core of the Middle East conflict.

UNDER SECRETARY AL-BAZ ON ISRAELI GAZA SETTLEMENTS

NC250719 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 25 May--Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz has stated that Israel's decision to build new settlements in Gaza constitutes a fresh escalation of Israel's settlements policy.

In a statement to the newspaper AL-AHRAM, published today, he says that this decision is clearly provocative and disproves the claims made by Israel to justify its expansionist settlements policy.

The Foreign Ministry's first under secretary adds that the building of settlements in Gaza shows the falsity of the Israeli claim that the settlements are being built for security reasons. Egypt, he says, rejects these pretexts, whether in relation to the West Bank or Gaza.

EGYPT REJECTS ETHIOPIAN CLAIMS ON NILE RIVER WATER USE

NC261505 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1355 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 26 May--The Arab Republic of Egypt has declared its rejection of the false claims made by the Ethiopian Government on Egypt's use of the Nile waters. Egypt considers these claims an attempt to interfere in its internal affairs and inconsistent with the principles of the world community and the Organization of African Unity.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that the Ethiopian ambassador in Cairo and the OAU have received memoranda concerning this issue in reply to a memorandum that the Ethiopian Government delivered to the OAU.

Ghali said that in its memoranda Egypt has stressed its full right to use its share of the Nile River waters in keeping with its interests and in accordance with international agreements that define the distribution and use of the Nile waters. Egypt has also corroborated its reply with historical facts that emphasize that Egypt's use of the Nile waters in the Sinai Peninsula is an absolute and unquestionable right.

Ghali further said that in its memoranda Egypt has shown that while it is fulfilling its commitments in accordance with the international laws and agreements regarding the Nile waters, it also believes in the need for the countries in which the Nile River originates to commit themselves to the laws and agreements that safeguard the rights of the countries through which the Nile flows. Ghali said that in its memoranda Egypt called for developing and boosting cooperation among the countries in which the Nile flows, so as to achieve optimal use of the waters for the benefit of all.

Foreign Ministry Ambassador Samir Ahmad delivered the memorandum to the Ethiopian ambassador. The same memorandum will be circulated among all the OAU member states.

IRANIAN FORCE REPORTEDLY CROSSES BORDER, KIDNAPS 8 IRAQIS

JN271733 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 May--A military force belonging to the racist Persian regime committed an aggression against the Iraqi territories yesterday. A source at the Interior Ministry has stated that a Persian infantry force, reinforced by three tracked vehicles, infiltrated across the border at Maysan junction yesterday. He added that the force, which belongs to the Iranian border post of ('Anakzah), kidnaped a contractor and two of the men working with him on the construction of Iraqi border post of (Al-'Ablah), in addition to five others belonging to the border forces. The Iranian force then led the people into Iranian territory. The source explained that this aggression comes as part of the criminal provocative acts committed by the agent Persian regime against Iraq and its struggling people.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS EXECUTION OF IRAQI OFFICIALS

NC280823 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon, four senior Iraqi officials have been executed and a British businessman has been sentenced to 20 years imprisonment.

FINANCE MINISTER LEAVES FOR VIENNA OPEC MEETING

JN250730 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0725 GMT 25 May 80

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 25 May--Iraqi Finance Minister Thamir Razuqi left for Vienna this morning at the head of a delegation to participate in the meetings of the OPEC finance ministers which will begin there on Tuesday.

PARTY OFFICIAL RETURNS FROM VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

JN241950 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 24 May--Tariq 'Aziz, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party national command member and director of the foreign relations office, returned here tonight following a 4-day visit to Yugoslavia at the invitation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY].

Tariq 'Aziz said that he and members of the delegation accompanying him held successful and significant talks with various LCY officials. The talks dealt with means to further strengthen the relations between the LCY and the Arab socialist Ba'th Party.

He added that the talks also touched on issues of common interest, particularly those related to the nonaligned movement, ways to further develop and strengthen the movement's genuine principles and the importance of activating the movement's role on the international level in order to entrench the peoples' national independence and to build the pillars of peace and stability on the basis of equality, noninterference in states' internal affairs and rejection of the policies of colonialism, hegemony and domination.

BULGARIAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN252050 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2045 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 25 May--Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister Khristo Iliev Khristov arrived here tonight on a visit of several days to Iraq. While in Iraq, the Bulgarian minister will hold talks with Iraqi officials dealing with bilateral relations of cooperation.

RCC VICE CHAIRMAN LEADS DELEGATION TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

JN260751 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0725 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 26 May--Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim left for Prague today at the head of a delegation on a visit of several days to Czechoslovakia. Ibrahim said that the purpose of the visit is to promote cooperative and friendly relations between the two countries at a stage which necessitates the activation of militant relations among the friendly and peace-loving nations against imperialism and Zionism.

Ibrahim added that during the visit, he will hold talks with Czechoslovak officials dealing with issues of common interest and current international issues. He expressed confidence that the visit will realize its goals of developing relations between the two countries in all fields.

Ibrahim is accompanied by a delegation which includes RCC member and Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali, Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and several officials with various specialties.

INA, ROMANIA'S AGERPRES VIEW BILATERAL COOPERATION

JN271845 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1810 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 May--Director General of the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY Taha Yasin Hasan returned here tonight following a weeklong visit to Romania. During his visit, he held talks with Romanian officials on ways to bolster the two countries' information co-operation in general and cooperation between the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY and the Romanian news agency in particular.

The talks also dealt with ways of developing the cooperation agreement concluded between the two agencies, making a study to link them with a direct line via the INA office in Vienna, exchanging correspondents and working visits to become acquainted with the nature of work in the two agencies and transferring the developments and accomplishments in both countries.

OMANI MINISTER ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD FOR 2-DAY VISIT

Statement on Arrival

JN260926 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0845 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 26 May--Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Qays 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Zawawi said that he is carrying a message from Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman to President Saddam Husayn dealing with the development of relations between the two countries. He added that he will hold talks with Iraqi officials on issues of common interest and the strengthening of bilateral relations.

Az-Zawawi announced that the visit is an Omani initiative aimed at promoting bilateral cooperation, holding a dialogue to remove any misunderstanding that might have resulted from certain political viewpoints and discussing the establishment of a permanent joint committee to strengthen cooperation and its continuity on the basis of mutual respect. Az-Zawawi is accompanied by Omani Information and Youth Affairs Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas.

Sultan's Message to Husayn Conveyed

JN270754 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0735 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 May--President Saddam Husayn received here last night Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Qays 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Zawawi. Az-Zawawi conveyed an oral message from Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman to President Saddam Husayn dealing with Iraqi-Omani cooperation and ways to promote it.

Iraqi Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hamid 'Alwan, Omani Information and Youth Affairs Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas and the Omani ambassador in Baghdad participated in the meeting.

Meeting With 'Alwan

JN271201 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 May--Hamid 'Alwan, Iraqi minister of state for foreign affairs and acting foreign minister, met here today with Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Zawawi.

During the meeting, which was attended by Omani Information and Youth Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas and several Iraqi Foreign Ministry officials, the discussions dealt with bilateral relations and ways to promote them in various fields in the common interests of the two countries.

The Omani minister affirmed his country's support for the national declaration announced by President Saddam Husayn on 8 February. He expressed thanks and appreciation to President Saddam Husayn for his excellency's wish to strengthen fraternal relations between the two countries.

Departure 27 May

JN271305 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1250 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 27 May--Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Qays 'Abd al-Mun'im az-Zawawi left for London today following a 2-day visit to Iraq. Az-Zawawi said that during the visit he conveyed an oral message from Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman to President Saddam Husayn dealing with bilateral relations and ways to promote them.

The Omani minister expressed his happiness for meeting with President Saddam Husayn and his satisfaction with the atmosphere of amity that prevailed during the discussions with officials here, which affirmed keeping our region outside the sphere of international conflicts in order to entrench its Arabism and sovereignty.

Az-Zawawi added: We explained to the brother officials in Iraq our views on the progress of bilateral relations and the bases for developing these relations. We sensed a big understanding for the continuation and promotion of these relations. Omani Information and Youth Affairs Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas, who accompanied Az-Zawawi on the visit to Iraq, left Baghdad for Muscat.

RCC OFFICIAL RECEIVES LETTER FROM KUWAITI PRIME MINISTER

JN251141 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 25 May--RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim received this morning a written message from Kuwaiti heir apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah. The message was delivered to the RCC vice chairman by Kuwaiti Ambassador in Baghdad 'Abd al-'Aziz as-Sar'awi when he was received by Ibrahim today.

INA has learned that the message stressed fraternal Kuwait's concern on strengthening and developing fraternal relations with Iraq in order to bolster the Arab nation's struggle at the present stage. The message also contained the Kuwaiti heir apparent's thanks and appreciation to both President Saddam Husayn and Ibrahim for the warm welcome and hospitality that he was accorded during his visit to Iraq.

DJIBOUTI PRIME MINISTER CONCLUDES VISIT; PROTOCOL SIGNED

Barkat Statement

JN231841 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 23 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May--Djibouti Prime Minister Gourad Hamadou Barkat has expressed his confidence that his current visit to Iraq will contribute to promoting and developing bilateral relations, in the service of the interests of the two fraternal countries and of the Arab nation. He added that the visit is a good opportunity to become acquainted with the comprehensive progress Iraq is witnessing in all fields.

In a statement here today, Hamadou added that Iraq has been and is still in the forefront in giving aid and support to Djibouti, so that it can entrench its independence and development in the various fields. He said: We are following up with admiration and appreciation Iraq's role and admirable stands on the Arab and international arenas in championing the rights and just issues of the Third World countries.

The Djibouti prime minister reaffirmed his country's denunciation of the Camp David accords, describing them as a violation of the Arab nation's aspirations and just issue. He asserted that there can be no peace in the Arab area without the regaining of the Palestinian people's national rights and their right to self-determination.

Protocol Signed 24 May

JN241203 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 24 May 80

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 24 May--The protocol appended to the economic and technical cooperation agreement between Iraq and Djibouti was signed here today. The protocol, which was signed for Iraq by Education Minister 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd al-Majid and for Djibouti by Djibouti Industry Minister 'Ali Mahamed Houmed, stipulates that the Iraqi fund for foreign development will finance a cement plant in Djibouti and offer agricultural machinery and equipment. It will also expand joint cooperation in the exploitation of mineral wealth and well drilling in order to help combat the drought in Djibouti.

President Gouled Message to Husayn

JN241433 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1325 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 24 May--President Saddam Husayn received a written message today from Djibouti President Hassan Gouled. The message was received on behalf of President Saddam Husayn by RCC member and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan when he received Djibouti Prime Minister Gourad Hamadou Barkat today.

Departure 24 May

JN241434 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 24 May--Djibouti Prime Minister Gourad Hamadou Barkat concluded a 4-day visit to Iraq and left for home. He was accorded an official sendoff at Baghdad international airport. Those seeing him off were headed by RCC member and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan and included some ministers and the Arab ambassadors in Baghdad.

The Djibouti prime minister described his talks with the Iraqi officials as successful and fruitful. In a statement to INA, he praised the constant aid offered by Iraq to Djibouti and said that this aid stems from Iraq's pan-Arab stands. Earlier today, the Djibouti prime minister visited the Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party museum and became acquainted with its contents, which embody the party's struggles and confrontation of the former regimes.

AD-DUSTUR COMMENTS ON OUTCOME OF ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

JN230912 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 23 May 80

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today the newspaper AD-DUSTUR comments on the outcome of the Islamic conference and describes it as the beginning of the emergence of an Islamic force that can perform an effective role in the service of the Islamic nations' issues and the issues of peace and liberation in the world.

The paper says: During the conference, unanimity was represented in the fact that the abyss of danger threatening the entire nation lies in Israel, which is the base of colonialism and all acts of aggression against the Arab and Islamic nations as well as their wealth and holy places.

If practically implemented, the resolutions adopted on the Palestinian issue, particularly Jerusalem, can seriously contribute to the Arab nation's struggle to liberate Jerusalem and regain the Palestinian people's usurped rights. However, Jerusalem is not liberated with mere resolutions, recommendations and condemnations. The point is not in resolutions but in implementation. Israel has ignored scores of resolutions adopted by the United Nations, nonaligned countries and Arab and international conferences, protected by the absolute support of the United States to continue its aggression, usurpation of the holy land and violation of the sanctity of holy places.

AD-DUSTUR adds: The conference's call for the expulsion of Israel from the United Nations and the boycotting of any state that recognizes the annexation of Jerusalem to the Zionist entity should be transformed into practical reality which addresses the source of the danger and is not confined to a limited framework. Islamic pressure should be brought to bear on the forces which back Israel, particularly the United States, which has stood as a stumbling block before any measure of this kind against Israel and has impeded all the efforts to impose sanctions against it.

Concluding its editorial, AD-DUSTUR says: Hence, the Islamic nation is called upon to rise to the level of serious action which can be implemented and to establish a genuinely cohesive force and a broad and effective Islamic front so as to safeguard its crucial issues, wealth and territories. Otherwise, conferences and resolutions will be a waste of time, mere ink on paper and futile words.

MINISTER OF STATE RETURNS FROM VISIT TO ALGERIA

JN231944 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 May 80

[Text] Minister of State Hasan Ibrahim returned to Amman from Algiers today after conveying a message from His Majesty King Husayn to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. The message dealt with Arab and international developments in the current stage.

Hasan Ibrahim said that the Algerian president expressed great appreciation for King Husayn's role in support of Arab solidarity. He also noted that he brought a reply message for King Husayn from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, dealing with the Algerian stand on current Arab and international issues.

Ibrahim said that while in Algiers, he met with Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia and with other officials. The political situation on the Arab and international levels and bilateral relations were discussed during these meetings.

JAPANESE CHIEF OF STAFF ARRIVES ON VISIT 25 MAY

JN252129 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Chief of the Japanese Combined Staff Gen Goro Takeda and his military delegation arrived in Amman this evening on a 2-day visit to Jordan. During the visit the Japanese delegation will meet with several Jordanian officials and will visit a number of military positions.

Departs 26 May

JN271036 Amman JNA in Arabic 0945 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Amman, 27 May--Chief of the Japanese Combined Staff Gen Goro Takeda and the military delegation accompanying him left Amman yesterday following a visit to Jordan during which he met with high-ranking military officials.

PRIME MINISTER REASSERTS STAND ON DEPORTEES ISSUE

JN261700 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 May 80

[Excerpts] The National Consultative Council [NCC] convened today under speaker Ahmad at-Tarawinah. Prime Minister ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf and the ministers attended. At the outset of the session NCC members Dr Ahmad Abu Qurah, Dr Muhammad az-Zabin and Tahir Hikmat took the constitutional oath. The council was then briefed by the committee in charge of West Bank affairs on the meeting with the three deportees.

Commenting on the committee's briefing, the prime minister said: On behalf of the government, I take this opportunity to reiterate that Jordan--both leaders and people--solidly and constantly support our kinfolk in the occupied territories. Jordan, he added, also stands with our people's valiant and heroic struggle against the occupation and the attempts to obliterate the occupied homeland character, to empty the land of its Arab citizens and to plant it with Israeli settlements, along with the deportation and displacement measures.

His excellency said: The government has exerted efforts on the international level to re-activate the deportees issue, to raise it at UN bodies and to attract the attention of the world public to this issue, in order to bring international pressure to bear on Israel. He added: We reaffirm our denunciation of the Israeli measures against our people in the occupied territories. We urge the world public and all friendly countries, as well as those that uphold right, to support our people in the occupied land, to prevent the Israeli authorities from adopting arbitrary measures, and to champion the right and to establish the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to liberation of the occupied Arab land.

LEBANON LODGES COMPLAINT WITH UN SECURITY COUNCIL

NC280746 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Lebanese permanent delegate to the United Nations Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni has lodged a complaint with the chairman of the UN Security Council concerning Israeli attacks. The complaint includes a warning that Lebanon will call for an emergency session of the council should the Israeli attacks against Lebanon be repeated, as occurred on 23 May in the shelling of Sidon.

Ambassador Tuwayni regarded the shelling of Sidon as a new kind of attack aimed against the areas outside the control of the UN forces. Tuwayni added that the shelling operations appear to be linked with the current efforts by the Security Council to implement a previous resolution condemning Israeli interference in Lebanon and calling for security and peace in southern Lebanon.

Ambassador Tuwayni said that since the resolution was adopted on 24 April, a new type of naval aggression supported by aircraft has appeared.

BUTRUS INTERVIEWED ON MILITARY TALKS, SIDON INCIDENT

NC261336 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 May 80

[Unnamed reporters' 26 May interview with Lebanese Foreign Minister Butrus upon his departure from presidential palace--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Your Excellency, Mr Minister: In light of the military talks over the weekend in the Syrian capital, how are we to visualize the political steps that the government is preparing to take?

[Answer] The military talks that took place in the Syrian capital in the past 2 days do not necessarily have to have an instant effect on the political domain. Other considerations make it imperative for the government to take political moves, and there can be no doubt that such moves will be made within the next few days as part of the efforts to feasibly translate the principles of [national] reconciliation in the political arena and possibly in the security domain if the relevant political requirements are insured.

[Question] Your Excellency, has anything been decided on the situation in the south in light of the contacts between Beirut and New York?

[Answer] We have instructed the chief of the Lebanese mission in New York to lodge a complaint with the Security Council concerning the incident that occurred in Sidon last Saturday. We have also instructed him to reserve the right to apply for a Security Council session if it transpires that such a session is needed.

[Question] Your Excellency, this is a final question. In your capacity as chief of Lebanese diplomacy, do you expect the situation in Lebanon to suffer because of any repercussions that might result from the Israeli defense minister's resignation?

[Answer] It is difficult for me to answer this question if I want to be realistic. However, I believe that this matter in itself concerns Israel, even though this resignation naturally has its background, which might to some extent be related to the Israeli policy being pursued by the Begin government toward the Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular.

ARMY COMMANDER, CHIEF OF STAFF LEAVE BEIRUT FOR DAMASCUS

NC240832 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri and Chief of Staff Brig Gen Munir Tarabay left for Damascus at 0900 today to meet with the Syrian defense minister, army chief of staff and senior officers.

Return From Damascus

NC241835 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] The Lebanese army delegation returned to Beirut from Damascus at 1600 today. The delegation was headed by Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri and included Chief of Staff Brig Gen Munir Tarabay.

While in Damascus the delegation held discussions with senior Syrian military officials.

This morning the delegation met with Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi and Maj Gen 'Ali Aslan. At noon Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi hosted a luncheon for the delegation. Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Maj Gen 'Ali Aslan, director of Syrian Military Intelligence Brig Gen 'Ali Duba, Brig Gen Muhammad al-Khuli and Syrian Command senior officer attended the luncheon.

The discussions were held in a positive and understanding atmosphere.

ADF COMMANDER RETURNS FROM VISIT TO DAMASCUS

NC242030 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 May 80

[Excerpts] The Commander of the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF], Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib, returned to Beirut this evening after a 2-day visit to Damascus during which he held talks with senior Syrian officials on current security and political issues in Lebanon.

Al-Khatib's talks in Damascus dealt mainly with the situation in southern Lebanon and the possibility of resuming the work of the Arab followup committee to achieve tangible results. He also discussed the question of the ADF in general and the military steps which can be taken to reinforce the role of these forces and increase their coordination with the other Lebanese security organs, particularly the Lebanese Army, in order to bring under control the security situation, which has recently deteriorated.

On his return from Damascus, Al-Khatib went to the Presidential Palace in B'abdah where he met with His Excellency President Sarkis from 1700 to 1830 and briefed him on the details of his talks in Damascus.

INTERNAL SECURITY DIRECTOR LEAVES FOR PARIS

NC240831 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] At 0930 this morning, Director General of the Internal Security Forces Staff Maj Gen Ahmad al-Haj left for Paris for a 10-day official visit, during which he will acquaint himself with the internal security departments.

SYRIAN-SOVIET COMMUNIQUE ISSUED; DELEGATION DEPARTS

JN231736 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 23 May 80

[Text] Damascus--A Syrian Arab-Soviet joint communique was issued in Damascus today at the end of the visit paid to Syria by a Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation under Antanas Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. The visit came at the invitation of the Syrian Arab Republic's People's Assembly. The communique stresses the solid and cordial Soviet-Syrian relations and their comprehensive cooperation. The communique also underlines their identical viewpoints on all issues that were discussed and their readiness to further continue the joint struggle to establish peace throughout the world.

The two sides firmly condemn the Camp David accords and the separate agreement between As-Sadat's regime and Israel, which was concluded with U.S. patronage and participation. This agreement is a measure that is hostile to the Palestinian people's national rights and to the Arab nation's strategic interests.

The communique refers to the delegation's meetings with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and with senior officials in the country. The Soviet Parliamentarians reiterate their inalienable solidarity with the struggle of the Syrian Arab people and the Arab nation against the sedition of imperialism and its agents in the Middle East.

The Soviet delegation briefed the presidency of the Syrian People's Assembly on the outcome of the meetings of the Warsaw member-states' political consultative committee, particularly as it deals with support of the just Arab right to self-determination and to the occupied Arab territories.

The Syrian and Soviet parliamentarians firmly condemn the practices of the ruling circles in the United States of America and in other NATO member-states, their interference in the domestic affairs of various countries and their aggression against other countries' independence and sovereignty. The Soviet delegation expressed their gratitude for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded them during their visit.

The Supreme Soviet Presidium's delegation left Damascus at 1330 today at the end of an 8-day visit to the country. While here, the delegation's members held talks with Syrian officials on various issues of common interest.

The delegation members were send off by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud Hadid and by some assembly members.

In a predeparture statement, Barkauskas expressed his delight at visiting the Syrian Arab Republic. He said: During this visit, I had the honor of meeting with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and with a large number of Syrian officials. He reaffirmed that the Soviet Union, its leaders and its peoples highly appreciate the militant Syrian stands and the progressive Syrian plan. He said: We are determined to continue the joint struggle against U.S. and Zionist imperialism, in order to reach a just and lasting settlement to the Palestine issue, one that is based on Israel's complete withdrawal from the Arab territories and on recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights, including their right to establish their independent state on their national soil.

The People's Assembly speaker also gave a statement to a SANA correspondent. Hadid said: There is no doubt that the Soviet Parliamentary delegation's visit to the country during this stage is significant and has a special effect on the development of co-operation and friendship between Syria and the Soviet Union.

Hadid added: We are decisively facing the intensive imperialist onslaught on the Arab area, particularly on Syria. Thus, we are further strengthening our cooperation and struggle with our friends in the socialist countries, especially with the Soviet Union, in order to defeat the U.S. imperialist-Zionist-reactionary designs.

The People's Assembly spokesman stressed that the Soviet Parliamentary delegation's visit has contributed to further entrenching relations between the two friendly peoples, particularly as regards their common principles of struggle against all forms of colonialism.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM MEETS WITH 'ARAFAT

NC241812 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, met in Damascus this morning with Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by brother Abu Mahir, member of the Fatah Central Committee. Discussion during the meeting dealt with the situation in Lebanon and the latest developments in the Arab and international arenas.

SYRIAN, PDRY PRESIDENTS RESUME TALKS IN DAMASCUS

JN262144 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Damascus--At 1930 today another meeting was held between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. The two presidents reviewed the Arab situation and issues of mutual interest. They also exchanged views on ways of consolidating the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and Arab solidarity in facing the enemy's schemes.

Following this meeting President Hafiz al-Asad hosted a dinner banquet in honor of President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. The banquet was attended by the Yemeni delegation and several Syrian officials.

PDRY PRESIDENT, 'ARAFAT MEET IN DAMASCUS 26 MAY

JN262011 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held a meeting in Damascus this afternoon. Wafa reports that the two sides discussed bilateral relations during the meeting.

During the meeting PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad reiterated his country's support for the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian people's armed struggle.

On the PDRY side the meeting was attended by Muhammad Salih Muti, 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Wali and 'Abd ar-Razzaq Badib, members of the Political Bureau of the Yemeni Socialist Party; and Salim Salih Muhammad, Political Bureau candidate member and foreign minister.

On the Palestinian side the meeting was attended by Faruq Qaddumi, PLO Political Department head; 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO official spokesman; Dr George Habash, PFLP secretary general; Nayif Hawatimah, DPFLP secretary general; and Khalil al-Wazir, Fatah movement Central Committee member.

TUNISIAN INFORMATION MINISTER ARRIVES 25 MAY

JN252027 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Tunisian Minister of Information and Cultural Affairs Fouad Mbazaa arrived in Damascus today. He is on a 5-day official visit to Syria. On his arrival Mbazaa praised the brotherly ties between Syria and Tunisia. He said: I am conveying feelings of fraternity and love from President Habib Bourguiba and the Tunisian people to the Syrian brothers and President Hafiz al-Asad.

Meets Khaddam

JN262013 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] In his office this evening Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Tunisian Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Fouad Mbazaa. The meeting was attended by Minister of Culture Dr Najah al-'Attar and the Tunisian ambassador in Damascus. During the meeting the two sides discussed bilateral relations and ways of strengthening them and reviewed the situation in the Arab area.

TISHRIN COMMENTS ON ESCALATION OF 'U.S. CONSPIRACIES'

JN270834 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 27 May 80

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Under the headline "No Leniency in Confronting External and Internal Conspiracies," the newspaper TISHRIN says: There is no doubt that the United States is a very powerful country and one which possesses the most powerful army and fleets and the most sophisticated weapons in the world. It leads the world's capitalist colonialist camp. It also possesses large amounts of money, efficient psychological warfare institutions and one of the most dangerous departments of espionage and sabotage in the whole world.

Recently President Carter lifted all bans on the criminal and terrorist activities of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), even after a number of scandals have been revealed by a U.S. investigation committee under Senator (Perry). This means that the direct U.S. aggression against peoples is clearly reflected by all kinds of crimes, sabotage, acts of provocation and assassinations being implemented by the CIA.

TISHRIN adds: Syria, which leads the war of Arab steadfastness against the U.S. imperialist onslaught, is a major target for the United States in the Middle East. The United States believes--and it has the right to do so--that the elimination of Syrian steadfastness against imperialism and Zionism and their plots of dragging the region to the colonialist camp, means the collapse of Arab steadfastness. This steadfastness prevented the U.S. plots from being implemented in the region and As-Sadat's policy from being followed by others in the Arab arena.

As a result of this steadfastness, the United States is currently directing all its pressures against Syria in an attempt either to force Syria to accept U.S. settlement plans--which means accepting subservience to imperialism, liquidating the Palestine question and standing in the U.S. trench along with Israel and As-Sadat's regime--or to topple the Syrian regime and replace it with a fascist one which will abolish all the principles of nationalism and progress.

After reviewing the forms of U.S. pressure, TISHRIN points out that Syria does not expect the aggressive U.S. campaign to slacken, whether externally or internally. President al-Asad said on two occasions a few days ago that Syria expects the enemy to escalate its pressures and conspiracies. This is natural and logical, for as long as the imperialist's hopes to impose domination on the region are blocked, its aggression will escalate.

TISHRIN concludes: As President Hafiz al-Asad and his great guest 'Ali Nasir Muhammad have said, all these pressures will foster Syrian determination to stand fast.

AL-WATAN SAYS SYRIAN COMMUNIST PARTY TO BE ARMED

LD231557 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 19 May 80 p 13

[Michel an-Nimri report: "Bakdash Syrian Communist Party To Be Armed for Self-Defense and Defending Leaders and Cadres"]

[Excerpts] Damascus--Well-informed Syrian political sources have affirmed that it has been decided to arm the Syrian Communist Party led by Khalid Bakdash in order to be able to defend itself, its leaders and cadres as well as its locations against assassination operations being carried out by groups of extreme rightist forces. The decision comes following the assassination of two Communist Party members in Aleppo on 21 and 30 April.

During the funeral of the two dead men, Aleppo witnessed the largest procession against the Muslim Brotherhood since the outbreak of recent incidents. Some 4,000 citizens took part in the second funeral led by Daniel Ni'mah, member of the Political Bureau and of the National Progressive Front.

Meanwhile, the authorities and the socialist Arab Ba'th Party circles are showing noticeable satisfaction nowadays at the manner in which the crisis has developed in that a general relaxation has been noticed in the country since mid-April as the government now seems to be more in control of the situation and has a firmer grip on affairs in the country.

Last March witnessed the peak of activities by the opposition forces in the country and, as a result, the regime was actually in danger of falling. This prompted the ruling party and parties in the National Progressive Front participating in the government to mobilize all their capabilities and forces in an attempt to overcome the crisis and the opposing forces which, according to National Progressive Front circles, are led by remnants of capitalism and feudalism as well as some parasitic bourgeois.

As for the leftist opposition, which is led by Dr Jamal al-Atasi and which has been able to get together in a political association called "the national democratic grouping," it appears to be pessimistic about the possibility of achieving some of its demands or hopes for democratic political change in the country.

Dr Jamal al-Atasi has affirmed to AL-WATAN that the grouping is now anxious to restore the country to normal so as to enable the resumption of some form of democratic struggle which, in view of the authorities' alerting of their machinery and material and manpower resources in order to confront the opposition, is now impossible.

It is recalled that the ruling National Progressive Front and the socialist Arab Ba'th Party decided at the seventh party congress to initiate a serious dialog with all the nationalist forces opposing the Camp David agreement with a view to expanding the front to include these forces regardless of their differences on internal problems.

For this reason the front charged former Prime Minister and Ba'th Party Regional Command member Mahmud al-Ayyubi and Arab Socialist Party General Secretary 'Abd al-Ghani Qannut with conducting a dialog with Dr al-Atasi with the aim of agreeing on a common formula. But the dialog bore no fruit as the gap between the two sides remained wide.

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES PNC SPEAKER AL-FAHUM

JN251414 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Damascus, 25 May--Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Palestine National Council [PNC] speaker Khalid al-Fahum here this afternoon. Talks during the meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Arab region and in the arena of Palestinian action, as well as with the continued Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon.

AL-ASAD CABLES CZECH PRESIDENT ON REELECTION

JN231305 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 23 May 80

[Text of cable of congratulations from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to Gustav Husak, president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, on his reelection as president--date not given]

[Text] On the occasion of your reelection as president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, I have the pleasure of extending my sincerest congratulations, in my name and on the behalf of the Arab socialist Ba'th Party leadership, on the trust given you.

I would like to seize this opportunity to express the confidence that the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between our two states in all fields, relations which we bolstered during our meetings in Prague and Damascus, will continue to develop for the achievement of our mutual desire in the service of our two peoples and the joint struggle against the plots of the imperialists, Zionists and their agents.

Please accept my best wishes to your person for more health and happiness and to the friendly Czechoslovak people for more progress and prosperity.

ALEPPO MAYOR TAKES CONSTITUTIONAL OATH BEFORE AL-ASAD

JN271256 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Damascus--Aleppo Mayor Muhammad Nihad al-Qadi took the constitutional oath before President Hafiz al-Asad at 1030 today. The president then received him and they discussed the affairs of the province. The president also gave the Aleppo mayor his directives.

ALGERIA

YUGOSLAVIA'S VRHOVEC ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

LD261406 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Mr Josip Vrhovec, Yugoslav federal secretary for foreign affairs, arrived in Algiers this morning for a working visit. The visit is being made in the context of the traditional consultations between the Algerian and Yugoslav governments and the heads of the two foreign ministries will exchange views on the international situation and examine problems of mutual interest. The Yugoslav federal secretary made the following comments on the talks: [begin recording in Serbo-Croatian, fading to French translation]

We are going to hold talks on topics of interest to everyone and first of all on non-alignment. Our consultations have always been fruitful; let us hope that these will also be equally fruitful. We consider that each of our meetings represents a contribution to good cooperation in all fields, to the consolidation and strengthening of relations at the international level and to developing solid friendship between our two peoples. For this reason I am happy to find myself in Algeria and I extend my best wishes to the Algerian people.

DJIBOUTI FOREIGN MINISTER ENDS 3-DAY VISIT

LD261954 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] The foreign minister of Djibouti, Moumin Farah, left Algiers today at the end of his 3-day official visit. He was seen off by Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs. In a statement issued to the press the Djibouti minister affirmed that the talks he conducted with the president of the republic and with Algerian officials dealt with the strengthening of bilateral cooperation and the international situation, particularly in Africa and the Middle East. At the VIP lounge the two ministers signed agreements for technical, cultural and scientific cooperation.

NICARAGUAN MILITARY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ALGIERS

LD261956 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 May 80

[Summary] A Nicaraguan military delegation arrived in Algiers this afternoon. The delegation includes the deputy defense minister and the commander of the Sandinista national militia.

LIBYA

PALESTINIAN CONGRESS ELECTS OFFICIAL

LD270932 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Tripoli--The masses of the Palestinian Arab people's general congress elected a secretary, assistant secretary and members of the secretariat of the congress during a meeting held by the congress in Tripoli last night. They are as follows: Dr Yahya Jabr, general secretary; 'Abd ar-Rahman Shahin, assistant secretary; Kamil Issa, member; Muhammad Surur, member; Mas'ud al-Qadar, member.

YAR CHIEF OF STAFF ENDS VISIT 23 MAY

LD231738 Tripoli JANA in English 1623 GMT 23 May 80

[Text] Tripoli, May 23, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Brigadier 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Boti, North Yemeni chief of staff, left Tripoli today at the end of a short visit to the Jamahiriyah. In a statement to JANA correspondent, Brigadier al-Boti expressed his admiration for the Libyan Armed Forces' equipment and training.

OIL SECRETARY RECEIVES DPRK ECONOMIC MINISTER

LD241902 Tripoli JANA in English 1713 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] Tripoli, May 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The oil secretary this morning conferred with the North Korean minister of external economic affairs and his accompanying delegation. Discussions centered on aspects of bilateral cooperation and the exchange of views regarding cooperation in the oil industry.

Departure of DPRK Official

LD251910 Tripoli JANA in English 1639 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Tripoli, May 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The minister of external economic affairs in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Kong Chin-tae, left this morning after ending a visit of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah during which he held talks on the consolidation of bilateral friendship and cooperation in all fields.

MAURITANIA

HAYDALA DETAILS RESULTS OF CHINA, IRAQ, KUWAIT VISITS

AB250800 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 23 May 80

[Text] Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, president of the CMSN [Military Committee for National Salvation], head of state and government has returned to Nouakchott after a trip that took him to China, Iraq and Kuwait. The head of state was met on arrival last night by members of the CMSN and government, as well as by many high personalities of the diplomatic corps accredited to Nouakchott. After the official welcoming ceremony, the president of the CMSN answered questions from the national press. [begin recording]

[Question] Mr President, you have just returned from a long tour which took you successively to China, Iraq and Kuwait. During this tour you held talks with Chinese leaders and you met the authorities in the other two countries. What can you say about this tour?

[Answer] As you have said, I have just made a trip, at the head of a large delegation, to three countries--first to the People's Republic of China, secondly to the Republic of Iraq and thirdly to Kuwait. These visits were a pleasant opportunity for me to get to know the leaders of these countries, with which our country is linked by deep bonds of friendship, brotherliness and cooperation. The trip also gave me the opportunity to learn about the great, friendly people of China and the Arab friends of Iraq and Kuwait and to see the great victories achieved by each of these countries in the fields of their social, economic and cultural development.

These three visits also allowed me to have a profound exchange of views on the international situation as well as on bilateral relations with Prime Minister Hua Guo-feng and my brothers, President Saddam Husayn and the Amir Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah.

On the international situation, I noted that on most international problems we have very close, if not identical, views. African and Arab problems dominated our talks in Beijing, Baghdad and Kuwait city.

With my brothers Saddam Husayn and Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, we devoted special attention to the general situation in the Arab world in the light of the crucial stage through which our Arab nation is passing and the plots being prepared against it. Our views were quite identical on this subject.

Concerning our bilateral relations, I can tell you that our friends from China, Iraq and Kuwait understand the situation prevailing in our country and have promised to come to our aid. Their solidarity was commensurate with our expectation. To be specific I will mention some aspects of the great budgetary aid to be given to us in the immediate future: We have obtained aid for the electrification of the slum areas of Nouakchott and supplementary aid for financing of the "friendship port" and for building two hospitals and two primary schools, etc. We also have a firm promise from our Iraqi friends to participate in the running of the Mouadhibou refinery and for beginning operations at the (Kibeldou) mines. Our Kuwaiti friends, on their part, undertook to help us fight the effects of drought and to finance a 5-year educational and health program.

Furthermore, I must state that the three countries we visited now understand the policies adopted by the Military Committee for National Salvation and firmly support them. The results of these visits prove the high esteem in which our country is held. They also prove that our people can count on many friends and brothers who are ready to stand by their side to safeguard their independence, their sovereignty and their dignity in order to pursue their economic and social development.

To conclude, I would like to take this opportunity to express our profound gratitude and our sincerest thanks to the leaders, the governments and the Chinese, Iraqi and Kuwaiti people for their generous hospitality and the expression of their deep and active solidarity. [end recording]

HAYDALA LEAVES FOR LOME ECOWAS SUMMIT

LD262144 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 26 May 80

[Summary] Lt Col Mohamed Ould Khouna Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, head of state and prime minister, left Nouakchott at noon today for Lome to take part in the sixth summit of the heads of the Economic Community of West African States to be held in the Togolese capital from 27 to 28 May.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN MEETS WITH SAUDI CROWN PRINCE

LD262114 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II this evening at the royal palace in Fez received His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi crown prince and first deputy prime minister, and His Royal Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the governor of Riyadh. During the meeting his majesty held new talks with their royal highnesses.

MAJORITY VOTES FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

LD241315 Rabat MAP in English 1220 GMT 24 May 80

[Excerpt] Rabat, May 24, (MAP)--The final results of the referendum on the amendment of Article 21 of the constitution, which took place on Friday, for votes inside the kingdom were as follows:

Registered Voters	6,905,950	
Voters	6,694,002	
Percentage of participation	96.93	
Cancelled	23664	
"Yes"	6,651,285	99.71 percent
"No"	19,053	0.28 percent

For Moroccan voters abroad, the referendum will last for three days, and the final results will be published at the end of this period.

RABAT REPORTS ENEMY LOSSES IN 23 MAY CLASH

LD242039 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] Following the bitter defeats suffered by the mercenaries in the Ouakziz battles, these mercenaries launched three attacks on the village of (Abatih) on 15, 20 and 23 May 1980.

Our Royal Armed Forces, displaying their well-known bravery and high morale, opposed them and made them retreat in defeat. The mercenaries gathered all their units on 23 May and they tried to recapture the village of (Abatih), but our Royal Armed Forces were lying in wait for them and a violent battle ensued, during which the enemy tried to cancel out at any price the heavy defeats it had suffered in the previous battles.

The enemy sustained losses in men and equipment in these battles, particularly on 23 May when the enemy left behind at the battlefield 150 dead and 2 prisoners who died of the wounds they had suffered; 45 enemy military vehicles, including a rocket launcher and a fuel tanker, were destroyed. Our Royal Armed Forces captured one jeep and one 12.7mm machinegun and a rocket launcher, and a quantity of weapons and equipment.

Four of our men were martyred and 17 others suffered injuries which varied in gravity.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI ADDRESSES REVOLUTION DAY CEREMONY 24 MAY

LD261626 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1715 GMT 24 May 80

[Speech by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri at a ceremony held in Friendship Hall in Khartoum on 24 May to mark the 11th anniversary of the 25 May revolution--live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate the merciful. Brother Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam [applause], head of state of socialist Ethiopia; brother heads of state and members of the fraternal and friendly delegations; brother fighters, members of the Sudanese Socialist Union of Khartoum Province; brother fighters throughout the homeland; brother free and revolutionary fighters: I greet you with the salute of the immortal and ever triumphant, God willing, May revolution.

Our gathering today is to mark the celebration of the 11th anniversary of the revolution through the Khartoum conference, in company with my dear brother Mengistu Haile Mariam, whom I welcome here in Khartoum. [applause] I welcome him on behalf of our great people and our triumphant revolution. I welcome him as a dear brother, and as a national and African militant. [applause] I am expressing Sudan's appreciation by choosing him to be with us at this historic moment in the life of our people and revolution as it approaches the 12th year of its triumphant march, along which Sudan is building its glory, enshrining its unity, formulating its new life by the peoples free will and great alliance, and assuming its responsibilities for struggle at the Arab, African and humanitarian levels. Sudan is giving Ethiopia and its fraternal people its love, appreciation and loyalty in a manner commensurate with our eternal bonds--bonds as eternal as the Nile, which flows to us from Ethiopia's highlands. [prolonged applause]

I now want to call upon those who worship the past and pursue mirages and delusions outside the borders of the homeland, isolated from their people, to fear God in the name of their religion, [word indistinct] homeland and families. Fight your vantages and delusions and rectify your errors and mistakes. Be with your people not against them. Support your homeland, its unity and construction. Desist from your excesses, which can only destroy you through malice and selfishness, which will only lead you to [word indistinct] and eternal damnation by being the agents of others. Come back to us. Make haste to join the march of the people. It is still easy to obtain the forgiveness of the people and the revolution. [applause]

Toward the end of the 1970's, we decided to advance regional government as a new revolutionary step toward placing authority fully in the hands of the masses, as an instrument for consolidating national unity and as a means of ensuring equal and integrated growth in all parts of the homeland. By virtue of the work done by the national commission on regional government; the relevant resolutions of the third national congress adopted in the light of studies by the commission; the appointment of regional governors; and the completion of the studies of the higher committee for the implementation of regional government--by virtue of all this we have covered a great deal of ground in terms of planning for the completion of this great revolutionary step. Very shortly the People's Assembly will amend the constitution to give regional government a constitutional foundation that will detail the institutions and powers of regional government to enable it to set up its legislative councils and executive bodies.

If I may be permitted to give a frank and open warning to ensure the attainment of the noble national goals of regional government, then I would warn against the fanning of the flames of tribalism, local conflicts [applause] --I would warn against the the fanning of the flames of tribalism, local conflicts and narrow bigoted views. That is a stage we have already covered and it will not return, God willing. [applause] All these are residual diseases of the hated past--the past of parties, sectarianism and racism.

Brothers, regional government is an original sapling of [word indistinct]. May [words indistinct]. Brothers, this makes it incumbent upon us to be vigilant and watchful, to close our ranks in order to deny the advocates of division, separation and fanaticism all opportunities, and thus ensure that regional government is born sound, healthy and free of all the diseases of the past.

We have rejected and resisted the policy of forming alliances with the great powers. We have resisted and rejected the establishment of foreign powers inside the countries of our continent. We have demanded that our seas and oceans not become theaters for international conflicts. We have demanded that the Red Sea remain a sea of peace and security. We have demanded that the Indian Ocean be an open arena for free (?trade) and free movement, and not a place for international conflict.

We believe that our African Continent, which is still waging the most violent contemporary battles against the vestiges of colonialism on its soil, is also waging a ferocious battle against long-standing backwardness. The latter is a battle which requires, in the first place, African cooperation, but it does not reject international cooperation. It is, however, opposed to attempts at polarization by the great powers, who pursue their own goals and interests--goals and interests which contradict and are incompatible with the efforts of building [word indistinct] and development in our continent.

Sudan, which is a neighbor of many of our brothers in the African Continent, has been and remains committed to a firm policy of good neighborliness and the need for cooperation, integration and coordination with its brothers. Sudan has for its brothers in Africa--especially those in its neighbor states--an open heart, an open bosom and unlimited readiness for cooperation for the sake of the stability, progress and prosperity of their peoples. [applause] It is on this basis that we have given a hearty and warm welcome to brother Mengistu. [applause] We welcome him as a friendly neighbor, as a brother and as a comrade-in-arms.

Sudan, which in terms of people and territory is similar to a number of states in this continent, believes that the cause of stability is indivisible and that the cause of security is not susceptible to [word indistinct], the suffering of those near to it [word indistinct] direct and indirect results. For this reason, Sudan, out of its own conviction, believes in the need for cooperation, coordination and constant joint action in order to contain problems of an explosive nature. For that is the road to peace and security for us and those around us. In the African Continent and in relation to its African brothers, Sudan believes in one and one principle only, namely, the principle of nonintervention in the internal affairs of others. [applause] Equally, it does not permit others to interfere in its affairs. [applause]

Brothers, Sudan, as part of the Arab nation, (?believes) that its permanent place and its real position rests with an Arab unity that voices the right of the Arab nation [applause] to liberate its occupied territory, above all holy Jerusalem [applause] and the (?attainment) by the Palestinian people of their legitimate rights to return to their homeland, attain self-determination and establish their own independent state on their national soil.

Brothers, in the international field, Sudan believes that international cooperation, equal dealings, noninterference in internal affairs and on exportation of social and political experience constitute the world's path to stability, progress and prosperity. The cause of right in the modern world is inseparable from the cause of justice. Justice will not prevail in our unsettled world until the (?great powers) realize that agreement among them cannot be an excuse to impose domination over the fate of the rest of the peoples of the world. We support peace and oppose aggression. We support the freedom of peoples to choose their destiny. We oppose attempts to oppress peoples and control their fate.

I take pleasure in announcing to you on this memorable day that I have deposited with the secretariat of the People's Assembly the draft constitutional amendments providing for the establishment of regional government in fulfillment of the people's wishes [applause] and in implementation of the timetable I have committed myself to before you. I call upon the esteemed People's Assembly to put this historic draft in its proper place and to direct its attention toward approving it at the beginning of its business.

Brothers, we have reviewed the matter of parastatal corporations and we have revised them to enable them to achieve their [word indistinct] goals. We have directed that intensive studies be prepared on them [words indistinct] the policy of monopolies in the fields of exports and imports. Inasmuch as the need to satisfy the requirements of the masses has top priority in the field of imports by ensuring the availability of commodities at reasonable prices, we recently decided to cancel the monopoly of the construction supplies company [applause] with the result that supplies became plentiful. In pursuit of this course, I now announce the cancellation of the monopoly of the Sudanese tea and coffee companies [applause] for failing to provide these commodities in sufficient quantities in spite of holding the monopoly given to them. I now declare that all importers are free to import tea and coffee. I also announce the end of all monopolies in the field of imports. [applause]

As for exports, in pursuance of our firm goals of protecting the producer, breaking the ring of speculation--to which some greedy people resort--ensuring the greatest return for the producer and of improving production both qualitatively and quantitatively, I now announce the withdrawal of the monopoly from the Sudan Oilseeds Company Ltd. [prolonged applause and loud cheering] I announce the withdrawal of the monopoly from the Sudan Oilseeds Company Ltd. The company may continue as an ordinary competitor in the market.

Today we wish to declare to our brother farmers and citizens throughout the country that the May revolution will continue to uphold the promise it has made to support them and to solve their problems diligently.

Brothers, free revolutionary citizens, come to the arenas of work, to the arenas of sacrifice in order to please God, the people and the homeland. Say: Work for God, and His messenger, and the believers will see your works. God has spoken the truth. Glory to Sudan. Glory to the people of Sudan. Glory and immortality to the revolution of Sudan. God's peace, mercy and blessings be upon you all.

TUNISIA

DEFENSE MINISTER BALLY RETURNS FROM ITALY

LD231732 Tunis TAP in English 1623 GMT 23 May 80

[Text] Tunis, May 23 (TAP)--Mr Slaheddine Baly, Tunisian defense minister, came back Thursday to Tunis coming from Rome following a three-day official visit to Italy on invitation of his Italian counterpart Mr Lelio Lagorio.

Stressing the positive character of this visit and the good atmosphere which characterized the meetings he had with Italian officials among whom [were] Premier Francisco Cossiga and Defense Minister Mr Lelio Lagorio, Mr Slaheddine Baly pointed out that his interlocutors clearly expressed to him their country's stand concerning the strengthening of bilateral relations.

The Tunisian minister also said that a perfect identity of views characterized the meeting and that the Italian officials showed a sincere understanding of vital issues for Tunisia as well as readiness to strengthen in all fields bilateral relations based on mutual respect.

KNESSET REJECTS SHELI'S NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION 27 MAY

TA271528 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] A few minutes ago the Knesset rejected Sheli's no-confidence motion following Weizman's resignation. Our correspondent Gil'ad Mishori reports that 5 Knesset members voted for the motion while 51 voted against and 25 Alignment, Shay and Hatehiya Movement Knesset members abstained.

AMBASSADOR 'EVRON MEETS WITH MUSKIE, COMMENTS ON MEETING

TA271743 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Today U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie met with Israel's ambassador in Washington Efrayim 'Evron. At the end of the meeting Ambassador 'Evron said they did not talk about the changes in the Israeli Government and that these developments will not affect the autonomy talks. Muskie and 'Evron expressed the hope that the difficulties piling up in the path of the autonomy talks can be overcome and the talks resumed as soon as possible. Ambassador 'Evron told correspondents he had talked with the U.S. secretary about matters pertaining to U.S.-Israeli relations. Among other things he noted that a Washington delegation will arrive soon to check Israel's oil needs following the U.S. commitment to supply oil to Israel.

U.S. SAID NOT TO FAVOR DISMANTLING WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS

TA271226 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 May 80 p 1

["By our political correspondent"]

[Text] The United States is not demanding the dismantling of Israeli settlements established in the West Bank and the awarding of self-determination to the Palestinians. This was stated by U.S. officials replying to a question last night.

The officials, who are said to be well-versed in President Carter's views, claimed that Carter's policy toward Israel is different from the policy adopted by his predecessors in that he does not adhere to the idea of "minor border alterations" and in that he realizes Israel's security interest in the West Bank. According to these officials, this is the reason why the Carter administration was not proposing a total Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 borders.

Replying to a question about the image of the autonomy as conceived by the United States, the officials said that when the Camp David accords were signed President Carter did not attach much importance to each and every word. That was the reason the U.S. administration can not attach the same grade of importance as Israel did to the naming of the self-administration authority as the "administrative council."

The U.S. administration believes this council should be given sufficiently wide authority so that it can supervise the lives of persons living within the autonomy boundaries. It emerges from the officials' remarks that the U.S. administration thinks that this authority should include the possibility to enact laws referring to the administration of the lives of the inhabitants within the autonomy boundaries. The officials added that the responsibility for distributing the water resources and the allocations of land should be entrusted with the autonomy council. The U.S. administration is of the opinion that the autonomy council should include more people than the number envisaged by Israel.

U.S. OFFICIALS DENY COORDINATION WITH EGYPT ON RESUMING TALKS

TA261535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] U.S. administration representatives, including Sol Linowitz, said they have not coordinated the resumption of the autonomy talks with Egypt. They also explained that the Egyptian vice president had not brought any new specific proposals for the resumption of the talks to Washington. These facts emerged at the end of Israel's Ambassador to Washington Efrayim 'Evron's talks with U.S. administration officials. At the meeting, the Israeli ambassador submitted Israel's protest to the United States for not having found it fitting to correct the Egyptian announcements on this issue. The Egyptian reports stated that an Egyptian-U.S. formula had not been found, as it were, for the resumption of the talks.

Political sources in Jerusalem pointed out to our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer that Egypt was creating a distorted picture on this issue. However, the sources noted, the talks would resume only after future moves were coordinated among the three parties. Meanwhile, Minister Yosef Burg suggested to the U.S. ambassador in Israel that the head of the delegations to the autonomy talks should meet somewhere to create the conditions for resuming the negotiations. Our political correspondent has learned that Dr Burg emphasized that his proposal had to be approved by the Cabinet.

INTERIOR MINISTER COMMENTS ON TARGET DATE FOR AUTONOMY TALKS

TA260715 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0610 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Today is 26 May, the target date for the conclusion of the autonomy talks and our political correspondent Yosi 'Abadi talks with the head of the Israeli autonomy team, Dr Yosef Burg, about this. [begin recording]

[Question] Today is 26 May, the famous target date for the conclusion of the autonomy talks and here it is passing without any special emphasis, at any rate, without an end to the talks. Why have the autonomy negotiations not, in fact, ended?

[Answer] That question has a most simple answer, which is that the Egyptians stopped the talks twice. On 7 May we had a real race against the 26 May negotiations clock; on 8 May As-Sadat canceled them. We heard this over the radio.

[Question] Was there any chance of concluding negotiations in time, by 26 May? Was there a chance, at the beginning of the month, of ending the negotiations?

[Answer] I do not believe difficult things can be done with a stopwatch in one's hand. So, 26 May is not an anniversary, a memorial day or a birthday, it is a day we had as a goal for arriving at something.

[Question] Is there any significance in the fact that just today one of the ministers who has recently been a member of the negotiating team is resigning from the government?

[Answer] To my regret I have not had the chance of spending much time in the negotiating team so I cannot evaluate the matter. There is symbolism, if you wish, but, as a historian, I can find symbolism for you every day of the year, since something has already happened on that day in the history of an ancient nation such as ours.

[Question] Yes. Will Israel agree to the determination of another fixed date for the end of the negotiations or, at least, another target date?

[Answer] If I read the press correctly, there is the idea of a November 1980 date. That is, the month when the U.S. presidential elections will be held. I think that whoever thought of this idea is handling the matter very clumsily. I think that the objective should be what is important, not the timetable.

[Question] Without going into detail about commitments, can we now expect a conclusion to the negotiations?

[Answer] I am now thinking about the negotiations' resumption after they have been stopped twice and you already want to know when the negotiations would end?

[Question] I assume that I am not the only one who would like to know, the parties who are partners in the negotiations certainly do, as well.

[Answer] What I have said applies to the negotiating parties as well. Who are the partners? The Americans know who caused the break and the president of Egypt definitely knows who caused the break.

[Question] More from the personal aspect, Dr Burg, do you feel any disappointment or regret about the fact that the negotiations have not been concluded?

[Answer] What is the personal aspect in this? I am a soldier; all my life I have behaved as though anybody who is not prepared to be a soldier is not entitled to be a general. I can say that I have enjoyed the holiday, but this does not mean that I want to shed the burden.

[Question] Thank you very much, Dr Burg, and I wish you a successful conclusion to the negotiations.

[Answer] Thank you. [end recording]

U.S. OFFICIALS ON AS-SADAT REACTION TO WEIZMAN RESIGNATION

TA271227 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 27 May 80 pp 1, 2

[By political correspondent Dalya Shehori]

[Excerpt] Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat appears to be bothered by Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman's resignation and has expressed his regret about it. As-Sadat said he had liked Weizman from the first time he saw him at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem. Although in 1967 Weizman was among the leading IDF hawks who encouraged Eshkol to set out to war, yet, as a defense minister, Weizman was among the leaders of peace, As-Sadat said.

The remarks were reported by U.S. officials who met the Egyptian president on Sunday. The officials said As-Sadat wanted to resume the autonomy negotiations and he intended to act according to the Camp David accords. However, if no progress is made in the talks, As-Sadat thinks that in due time he will be able to negotiate with a new Israeli government. As-Sadat also expressed his wish that President Carter would be reelected.

The officials noted that referring to Begin, As-Sadat said that he was one of three personalities in the history of the State of Israel--besides Ben-Gurion and Golda Me'ir--who could have made peace with him. As-Sadat's remarks contained a kind of warning that if Begin cannot continue to walk the peace road, it will be done by his successor.

SAUDI AUTONOMY PROPOSAL SAID COORDINATED WITH EGYPT

TA260918 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 26 May 80 pp 1, 2

[By Smadar Peri, 'AL HAMISHMAR correspondent on Arab affairs]

[Excerpt] Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's statement to the Washington POST regarding his country's willingness to join the autonomy negotiations was made after a meeting he recently held with a senior Egyptian personality.

The meeting took place in Oman in the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula. Oman is one of the two Arab countries that did not recall their ambassadors from Cairo after the peace treaty or sever their diplomatic relations with Egypt.

The meeting between members of the Saudi court and the senior Egyptian personality, a meeting that led President as-Sadat to suspend the autonomy talks for the second time within a week, occurred in the course of the latest round of autonomy talks at the Herzliyya Accadia Hotel. Precautions were taken to maintain the utmost secrecy of the meeting following the severance of diplomatic ties between Saudi Arabia and Egypt in May 1979.

At the end of last week, members of the Saudi court hurried to issue an official denial of the report that President as-Sadat had recently visited Saudi Arabia.

Israeli sources do not attribute any special importance to the Saudi crown prince's declarations on his country's preparedness to try and incorporate Arab countries and the Palestinians into the autonomy negotiations, provided Israel withdraws to the 1967 lines. According to the sources, the Saudi crown prince's statements to the Washington POST do not constitute a change in Saudi Arabia's well-known position. The declaration that Saudi Arabia will join the negotiations with Israel if the latter withdraws to the 1967 borders is nothing new, since Amir Fahd said things of a similar vein in a January 1979 interview with NEWSWEEK, and, 6 months later, in June 1979, in the New York TIMES.

BEGIN INVITATION FOR PRINCE FAHD VISIT REPORTED

TA280634 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has invited Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia to come to Jerusalem and address the Knesset. In an interview with the Washington POST, the prime minister said that although he could not accept Fahd's remarks to the Washington POST earlier this week, he was inviting him to Jerusalem in the knowledge that there could be mutual persuasion.

In the interview, Fahd said Saudi Arabia would be ready to support a comprehensive peace if Israel committed itself to withdrawal from the territories taken in the 6-day war. The Washington POST feels that the Saudi prince will not accept the call because it will involve visiting Jerusalem under Israeli control.

SHAMIR COMMENTS ON SAUDI PROPOSAL, WEIZMAN RESIGNATION

TA261124 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that it is almost certain that the defense minister's resignation will not affect the autonomy talks. He does not believe that Weizman's friendly relations with the leaders of the administration in Egypt and other countries can affect the results of the negotiations and so his resignation will not disturb them. However, there is no doubt that the government will feel his absence. The foreign minister stressed that Israel is ready to resume the talks at any moment.

In reaction to the statements made by the Saudi Arabian crown prince, Yitzhaq Shamir said that there was nothing new in what was said. Israel will be ready to discuss peace based on UN Resolution 242 with the Saudi Arabians, but up to now have not heard of any such Saudi Arabian willingness. The foreign minister was speaking with U.S. congressmen who have come to Jerusalem.

SEARCH CONTINUES FOR REPLACEMENT FOR DEFENSE MINISTER WEIZMAN

Begin Said Considering Shamir

TA271414 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] The prime minister has decided that the next defense minister will be Yitzhaq Shamir and his foreign affairs portfolio will be taken by Yitzhaq Moda'i. This is reported by our correspondent Tzvi Yisra'eli. It is not clear for the time being who will be appointed energy and infrastructure minister--whether it will be Minister Moshe Nisim or MK Moshe Arens. According to one of the versions, the communications portfolio will be separated from the energy and infrastructure portfolio. One portfolio will be received by a Liberal and the other by a Herut Movement member.

Today Menahem Begin will meet with groups of ministers by party and will inform them of the appointments. The prime minister intends to finish everything by Thursday and then the Knesset and Cabinet will convene to approve the appointments.

Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i told our correspondent Yosi Melman a short while ago that the appointments are not final and depend on the coalition components. Our correspondent notes that Deputy Prime Minister Ehrlich was involved in all contacts regarding the new appointments.

Begin Holding Consultations

TA271522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Prime Minister Begin is now holding contacts on the new appointments: Yitzhaq Shamir as defense minister, Yitzhaq Moda'i as foreign minister and Minister Moshe Nisim or MK Moshe Arens are candidates for the energy and infrastructure post. Let us go over to our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer:

The prime minister is now beginning consultations with the Cabinet ministers in order to speedily conclude the proceedings leading to the new appointments. As mentioned above, Yitzhaq Shamir will be the defense minister, Yitzhaq Moda'i will be the foreign minister and MK Moshe Arens or Minister Moshe Nisim will be the energy and infrastructure minister and MK Yehuda ben-Me'ir will be the head of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee.

Minister Moshe Nisim told me that these changes will stabilize the government. It is the first time that a triangular structure directed by the prime minister will be formed. From now on, foreign affairs and defense policy will be conducted without any kind of subversive activity or disagreements. Minister Nisim emphasized that the coalition will emerge victorious from the expected changes. In talks with ministers it emerges that the proposed appointments will be received without tremors and will even be approved.

Minister Ari'el Sharon, who viewed himself as a candidate for the defense minister's post, has not yet reacted to the developments. In any event, the prime minister is determined to introduce the changes quickly. The government and Knesset may convene for special sessions this week to approve the appointments.

Sharon Reportedly Threatens Resignation

TA271812 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon conferred with Prime Minister Begin in a very brief 10-minute meeting. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that Sharon delivered a clear message about his desire to be defense minister.

Our correspondent adds it is not clear whether Minister Sharon's announcement contained a threat of resignation. Sharon refused to speak with correspondents after the meeting. Herut Knesset members Corfu and Kaufman participated in the meeting. They told Begin it is impossible for the Democrats' representatives to impose a double veto, both on Sharon's candidacy for the defense minister's post and on Moda'i's candidacy for the foreign minister's post.

It was reported a few minutes ago that Minister Sharon submitted a letter to the prime minister. In Begin's opinion this letter constitutes a threat by Sharon to withdraw from the Cabinet if he is not appointed defense minister. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that Prime Minister Begin asked Minister Sharon to reconsider his threat of resignation since he will not be appointed defense minister.

Sharon Threat Denied

TA271952 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Let us go over to Yoram Ronen in the Knesset Building in Jerusalem for an update on the situation.

[Ronen] The last of the Knesset members are leaving the empty building now following a dramatic day of political activity. The updated information for the time being:

Minister Ari'el Sharon will apparently not resign from the Cabinet. Minister Sharon's confidants told us a short while ago that the letter he submitted to the prime minister this evening did not contain an ultimatum. According to them, he will give his reply to Mr Begin tomorrow and will announce his decision on his continued membership in the Cabinet. Sharon's confidants told us he was very encouraged by remarks of Prime Minister Begin, who told him he would have very much liked to appoint Sharon as defense minister, but regrettably cannot do so due to the Democrats' and Liberals' opposition.

The Democrats ended their consultation a short while ago. They refuse to talk, but announced they cannot accept the prime minister's proposal and are firmly opposed to Yitzhaq Moda'i's appointment as foreign minister. They are opposed to this to the point of threatening a withdrawal from the government and a government crisis.

The NRP faction has not reached a decision yet. The meeting of the NRP faction that began here this evening will continue tomorrow morning. Minister Burg informed the prime minister that many of the faction members are reserved about Moda'i's appointment as foreign minister. He added that the NRP does not believe that foreign ministers should be changed every few months.

The prime minister wanted to bring the new appointments for the Knesset approval tomorrow evening. It is to be doubted whether he will be able to do so. However, Mr Begin may be able to submit the appointments for Knesset approval the day after tomorrow.

Defense Establishment on Shamir

TA271958 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] The defense establishment has received the information about Yitzhaq Shamir's appointment as defense minister with restraint. Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman told our correspondent 'Amiram Nir it is good that the decision was made quickly since the defense establishment needs a minister. Yitzhaq Shamir is a decent and wise man, Minister Weizman said, and I hope he will succeed in this position. His first important test will be defending the defense budget.

Our military correspondent adds that no tremors are expected in the Defense Ministry's leadership following Yitzhaq Shamir's expected appointment as defense minister. Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori will continue to serve as deputy if the new minister asks him to do so. Defense Ministry Director General Yosef Ma'ayan will also continue in his position at this stage.

Former Chief of Staff on Shamir

TA280626 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Commenting on the nomination of Yitzhaq Shamir as defense minister, former Chief of Staff Mordekhay Gur has said that any defense minister would find it difficult to make decisions on military strategy and the purchase of weapons without a suitable background in the Israel Defense Forces.

The remarks were made by General Gur and not the chief of staff, as erroneously reported earlier.

NRP Opposed to Moda'i

TA271725 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Our correspondent Tzvi Yisra'eli reports that opposition also prevails among the NRP faction to Moda'i's appointment as foreign minister. The NRP faction is also angry that the prime minister had not consulted them before he made the decision on the appointment.

The head of the NRP Knesset faction, MK Yehuda ben-Me'ir denied the reports that the NRP has any demands regarding the changes expected in the government. He told our correspondent Amnon Nadav that he was not offered any position and that even if he is offered one, he does not intend to accept any position in this government, nor the post of the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee.

Regarding the new appointments, our correspondent has learned that Knesset members Roni Milo and Hayim Kaufman conferred with the prime minister last night and advised him to appoint Yitzhaq Shamir as defense minister since this position carries the significance of the number-two man in the Herut Movement.

Democrats Also Reject Moda'i

TA272007 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] The Democratic ministers informed Menahem Begin this evening they will not vote for the appointments he proposes in the Knesset. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that the Democratic ministers will meet with Begin again tomorrow and will express their firm opposition to Yitzhaq Moda'i's appointment as foreign minister. This evening the Knesset Democratic faction decided to reject the prime minister's proposals regarding the new appointments.

At the same time today the Judaea and Samaria settlers have tried to convince Minister Sharon not to resign from the Cabinet following Begin's decision to hand the defense portfolio to Yitzhaq Shamir. Our correspondent Avarham ben-Melekh reports that many signed a petition in Qiryat Arba'. Appeals to Sharon were made by other settlements as well. A Qiryat Arba' delegation left for a meeting with the minister this evening.

Liberals To Accept Begin's Choices

TA271758 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] The Liberals have also joined the pressures exerted on the prime minister before he finally decides on the appointments. The Liberal ministers and Knesset members ended a meeting about the proposed changes a few minutes ago. The Liberals agreed to accept the prime minister's proposal, just as it is, namely, Yitzhaq Moda'i's appointment as foreign minister and Yitzhaq Shamir as defense minister. The novelty lies in Minister Nisim's agreement, apparently, to receive the energy portfolio. The Liberals make it unequivocally clear that they will by no means make any concessions. Despite this, Minister Moda'i sounded optimistic at the end of the meeting. He told our correspondent Yosi Melman he believes a way out of the crisis will be found and the appointments will be made exactly as the prime minister suggested.

LIBERALS WILL NOT URGE WEIZMAN TO RETURN TO GOVERNMENT

TA271201 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] The Likud Liberals will not urge the defense minister to revoke his resignation following the sharp exchanges between himself and the prime minister. The head of the Liberals faction, MK Avraham Sharir, has told our correspondent Razi Barqay that the Liberal delegation will not go to the defense minister. Yesterday the Liberals had decided to send such a delegation to him to urge him to change his decision about resigning.

WEIZMAN REPORTEDLY TO CONTINUE POLITICAL CAREER

TA262000 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] The defense minister took his leave of the IDF General Staff today. Among other things, Weizman noted that anyone who thought he had finished his political career was wrong. I will yet take off, I do not know aboard which plane or in what direction. However, I will yet take off, Weizman said. Appealing to Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan, Weizman added that the entire burden of responsibility was now on him. Weizman warned Eytan to think carefully and to hold in-depth consultations before making any proposals or decisions.

May Visit Egypt

NC271547 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 27 May--MENA has learned that 'Ezer Weizman, the Israeli defense minister who submitted his resignation 2 days ago, will visit Egypt in response to a private invitation made by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali during the Heraliyya talks, which took place at the beginning of this month. MENA has also learned that Kamal Hasan 'Ali confirmed the invitation during yesterday's telephone conversation between the two. The date of the visit has not yet been set.

REPORT ON PRIME MINISTER BEGIN'S WASHINGTON POST INTERVIEW

TA280636 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 28 May 80

[Text] Here are some details of what the prime minister said in an interview [in the Washington POST]: Mr Begin said a U.S. initiative for the resumption of the autonomy talks would be welcomed, but Israel will not be the one to break the ice. Mr Begin also rejected an Egyptian proposal to set a new target date for the talks after the U.S. election.

OAU'S KODJO COMMENTS ON GISCARD'S TRIALOGUE PROPOSAL

AB250941 Paris AFP in English 0909 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Dakar, May 25 (AFP)--The French conception of a dialogue among Europeans, Arab and African countries must not perpetuate existing divisions, Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Secretary General Edem Kodjo warned in an interview in the Senegalese paper IE SOIEIL published here Saturday.

The dialogue, advocated by French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, was a positive idea provided the roles of the three sets of participants were clearly delineated, Mr. Kodjo said.

He warned against the result turning out to be a division into European technology, Arab finance and African raw materials. That would mean only the permanence of the old divisions of labour which had led to the current crisis and which developing countries disputed.

The dialogue should produce a new division of labour in which activities would be shared out by taking account of individual capacities to bring about, at the least possible cost, the various regionalisations and localisations of industry and production, Mr. Kodjo urged. He said he was awaiting directives from the OAU heads of state concerning talks with the Arab League and the European Common Market on what the three-way link-up should encompass and the role of the partners in the new process.

STEVENS PROMISES MEDIATION OF CONFLICTS AS OAU CHAIRMAN

AB271410 Paris AFP in English 0634 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Paris--Mediation and conciliation to solve inter-African conflicts will be the hallmarks of the policy Sierra Leone's President Siaka Stevens will follow as next chairman of the OAU, he said in an interview in the French paper IE MONDE. He thought a political security council in the OAU could provide a forum for complaints from countries in dispute.

I think we shall have to seize the conflicts as quickly as possible, when they are still in the embryonic state, Mr Stevens said, suggesting special subcommittees to investigate and intervene rapidly. Mr Stevens takes over the OAU chairmanship when Sierra Leone hosts the pan-African body's next summit in July.

ECOWAS DEFENSE PACT TALKS PRODUCE TWO DRAFT PROJECTS

AB231135 Lome Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 22 May 80

[Excerpts] During the Dakar summit meeting of the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, the heads of state and government agreed on a defense pact and decided that the two existing draft projects be submitted to a technical commission. This commission was to harmonize the two projects and submit a draft defense pact to the ECOWAS summit meeting which will open in Lome next Tuesday. The meeting of this technical commission ended this afternoon at the party headquarters in Lome after long and intensive deliberations. In his closing address to the meeting, the Togolese minister of foreign affairs, Mr Akakpo-Ahianyo, thanked all the delegates for their positive and brotherly contributions to the discussions. We have come to the end of our discussions, he said, and we have unanimously agreed on the need to organize the collective security of our subregion through a formula of mutual assistance between the ECOWAS countries in the field of defense. Apart from the meeting of the ECOWAS Technical Commission, a preparatory meeting of the organization's ministerial council has opened at the party headquarters in Lome.

MALIAN DELEGATE DETAILS OBJECTIONS TO ECOWAS DEFENSE PACT

AB241315 Paris AFP in French 0923 GMT 24 May 80

[Text] Bamako, 24 May (AFP)--The proposed ECOWAS defense pact contains many drawbacks for Mali, the head of the Malian delegation to the ECOWAS defense and foreign ministers conference, Col Fifiling Sissoko, stated in Bamako on Friday night.

Col Sissoko, member of the Executive Bureau of the Malian People's Democratic Union, the (ruling party), who was accompanied to Lome by Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, and the chief of staff of the army, Lt Col Sori Ibrahima Sylla, first of all recalled that ECOWAS member states belong to the nonaligned movement and the OAU and wondered if, legally, their membership in these two organizations permits them to belong to a military bloc.

The formation of a military bloc in the region will imply financial sacrifices on the part of member states of ECOWAS, which was founded mainly on an economic basis. These financial sacrifices, according to him, will force these countries to give up development projects for the defense of their sovereignty and divert attention from development problems to problems of military balance.

To Col Fifiling Sissoko, the establishment of such a pact would call for the creation of others, and, with the juxtaposition of blocs, which would bring about conflict situations, we would see Africa divided among the big powers. Africa, he added, would thus facilitate its reconquest, and we will see a Berlin II that would not be as enthusiastically adhered to as Lome II.

Earlier Colonel Sissoko noted that Africa is tackling a phase in its colonial recovery and recalled a statement made by the president of Mali, Gen Moussa Traore, a year ago after the ECOWAS summit in Dakar, in which President Moussa Traore said Mali will never use its security forces for the defense of colonial interests.

UPPER VOLTA'S LAMIZANA ARRIVES IN TOGO FOR ECOWAS SUMMIT

AB261140 Lome Domestic Service in French 0900 GMT 26 May 80

[Text] One of the heads of state who is to participate in the fifth summit of ECOWAS arrived this morning in Lome. He is the president of the Republic of Upper Volta, Maj Gen Aboubadar Sangoule Lamizana, who was welcomed at the international airport of Lome, Tokoin, by the guide of the new Togo, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema. It should be recalled that the ECOWAS deliberations will begin tomorrow.

LIBERIA'S DOE BARRED FROM ECOWAS SUMMIT OPENING SESSION

AFP Report

AB271411 Paris AFP in English 1405 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Lome, 27 May (AFP)--Master Sergeant Samuel Doe, who took power in Liberia in the April 12 military coup, was barred from the opening session of the summit conference of the Economic Community of West African States here today.

Sources close to the conference said that Nigeria and Ivory Coast were strongly opposed to admitting Sgt Doe.

He led the insurrection by enlisted men in which President William Tolbert, who had been the sitting chairman of the Organization of African Unity, was killed.

Sgt Doe arrived here yesterday in the personal airplane of the Guinean president, Ahmed Sekou Toure, who, according to sources in Monrovia, was to have introduced the Liberian leader at the conference.

Instead, Sgt Doe and the rest of his delegation stayed in their hotel suites.

A commission comprising Sierra Leone, Guinea, Ivory Coast and host country Togo was set up to decide whether Liberia--which was not officially invited--would be allowed to participate in the working sessions beginning later in the day. There was no comment from the Liberian delegation.

The opening session began more than an hour late. The Liberian flag had been next to that of Guinea Bissau on the conference table, but was removed before the heads of state entered the hall after deliberations behind closed doors.

Sgt Doe's arrival yesterday in Mr. Sekou Toure's airplane was greeted with surprise here. Dressed in camouflage fatigues, a pistol at his belt, the Liberian leader was welcomed stiffly at the bottom of the airplane steps. Sources said the fact that he was armed was particularly (?resented).

A Liberian delegation was refused permission to enter Nigeria for the OAU's economic summit in Lagos one month ago. Nigeria later said that the decision had been taken not at its initiative, but because of the general feeling of the summit participation.

Last week, a 35-member Liberian delegation, led by Sgt Doe, made a one-day visit to Guinea in what now seems to have been a bid to get Mr. Sekou Toure to act as godfather for Liberia at the summit of the 16-nation west African community.

Twelve heads of state, the heads of government of Cape Verde and Gambia and an Ivory Coast minister took part today in the opening session of the summit, presided by Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema.

Immediately afterward, Senegalese President Leopold Senghor, the outgoing chairman of the community, left for an official visit to West Germany.

Monrovia Radio Report

AB280653 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 27 May 80

[Excerpt] Reports from Lome says the Liberian delegation, headed by head of state Sgt Samuel Doe, was today stopped from participating in the opening session of the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS. Reports reaching our news room say Nigeria and the Ivory Coast opposed to admitting the Liberian head of state. A commission composed of Guinea, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast and Togo was set up to decide whether Liberia should be allowed to participate in the summit. According to executive mansion sources here in Monrovia, government officials are awaiting an official statement from the Liberian delegation in Lome.

The Liberian delegation was refused permission to enter Nigeria for the OAU economic summit in Lagos 1 month ago.

ETHIOPIA

TRADE MINISTRY DELEGATION LEAVES FOR USSR

LD262055 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 26 May 80 EA

[Text] A nine-man delegation of the Ethiopian Ministry of External Trade left for Moscow today to study and benefit from the external trade experiences of the USSR. On its way back to Ethiopia, the delegation will visit Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary and Yugoslavia for the same purpose. The delegation will study the role of foreign trade in the national economy, the duties of the chamber of commerce and the relations of banks and customers with external trade.

KENYA

VICE PRESIDENT HOLDS TALKS WITH ZIMBABWE MINISTER

LD271931 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 27 May 80 EA

[Text] The vice president, Mr Mwai Kibaki, today held talks with the Zimbabwean minister for public service, Mr Hove, in Nairobi. Mr Hove was accompanied by his country's deputy minister for finance, Mr Munyardazi. Others who attended the talks included an assistant minister for finance, Mr Arap Too, and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

SOMALIA

WSLF LEADER ADDRESSES REGIONAL OFFICIALS IN MOGADISHU

LD252150 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 25 May 80 EA

[Excerpt] The WSLF [Western Somalia Liberation Front] will continue to struggle as long as the black Abyssinian colonialists (suppress the rights) of the people in that area. This is what the WSLF secretary general, Challe Abdullahi Hasan Mahmud, said today when speaking on the struggle of the WSLF at the police academy in Mogadishu, where a seminar for leading regional and district officials is in process. Challe Abdullahi added that the Abyssinian black colonialist soldiers, supported by foreign forces, could not shatter the iron resolve of the freedom fighters, but would encourage the latter to intensify their struggle.

Turning to the recent clashes between the WSLF and the black Abyssinian colonialist soldiers at Jijiga, Kabradahare, Godi, Dire Dawa, Wardair and [name indistinct], the secretary general said the WSLF had gained the upper hand in every battle. Challe Abdullahi also said that journalists of the news media [words indistinct] had visited the areas where the fighting was taking place [words indistinct].

In conclusion, the secretary general asked the regional leaders to step up their support for (their brothers) who were struggling for independence.

MOGADISHU COMMENTATOR REJECTS ETHIOPIAN 'LIES'

LD271540 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 26 May 80 EA

[Text] The Abyssinian government is still putting out (unfounded propaganda against) the Somali Government. This is the topic of our commentary by (Hasan Idris Deale):

As reported by observers, the current internal situation in Ethiopia is deteriorating day by day. The reason for this is that recently the liberation fronts have been waging bitter defensive campaigns, while the Abyssinian masses are also struggling against that country's small ruling clique. Whenever the Mengistu regime has faced such problems it has told the world that Somali Government troops are involved in the fighting. Last week and early this week, Radio Addis Ababa reported that Somali troops have been killed in western Somalia. These lies were used by the Addis Ababa regime to obfuscate the bitter fighting by the liberation forces fighting in their occupied land.

In an interview for REUTER yesterday, the WSLF secretary general, Challe Abdullahi Mahmud, described these Addis Ababa reports attacking the Somali Government as baseless and unfounded. Challe Abdullahi, who recently returned from a tour of the liberated areas, told REUTER correspondents that among the victories recently won by the freedom fighters was between [words indistinct] (Genesade) and Jijiga, where 45 Cuban soldiers were killed. Addis Ababa Radio and the government are covering up these facts by saying that Somali troops are fighting the Abyssinians.

These grave problems facing the Addis Ababa regime are not the only ones. The liberation struggles of the Eritrean, Tigrean, Oromo and [word indistinct] fronts also pose a threat to the regime. Now the question to be asked is: What is the cause of the struggle of these peoples? Is it true that a certain government is influencing them, or is it a historic struggle to liberate themselves from the imperialist and colonialist Abyssinians?

Of course, it is clear that no Somali troops are involved in a fighting with Abyssinian troops. Such lies are only used to cover up the unpopularity of the Abyssinian policy. The Addis Ababa regime also believes that it can divert world attention from the situation and the struggle by desperately accusing its neighbors so as to win over those who currently support and sympathize with the liberation fronts.

The Abyssinian regime has been using these ugly tactics of accusing Somalia of expansionism and provocation for the past 3 years. Realizing that it could not deceive the world, the Mengistu regime took provocative steps against the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] in order to hide the truth about the liberation movements. These steps included raids by Abyssinian military aircraft on SDR territory.

During the recent Islamic foreign ministers conference in Islamabad, the Addis Ababa delegation and their lackeys--much to their dismay--failed to convince the conference about the presence of foreign troops in the Horn. The conference called for the withdrawal of foreign troops in the Horn and support for Somalia against foreign aggression.

What the Addis Ababa regime does not realize is that it cannot hide from the world in general, and the Abyssinian masses in particular, the bigger situation prevailing in Ethiopia. Somalia, striving for the general peace of the region and sympathizing with the oppressed Abyssinian masses, calls for the withdrawal of foreign troops from the area and for allowing the people of the area to govern themselves, this being the only solution for peace in the region.

As long as the Addis Ababa regime continues to pursue its policy of spreading unfounded propaganda against the SDR, it will be impossible to avert the dangerous situation prevailing in the region. That is the end of our commentary.

UGANDA

MILITARY COMMISSION SAYS LULE FREE TO RETURN

LD261522 Kampala International Service in English 1500 GMT 26 May 80 EA

[Text] On the eve of Dr Apollo Milton Obote's return from 9 years of exile in Tanzania, the Military Commission has announced its decision to provide security to two former presidents of Uganda who have been living in exile and who intend returning to Uganda to contest the forthcoming presidential elections. The two are Dr Apollo Milton Obote and Prof Yusufu Kironde Lule. In a statement issued this afternoon, the Military Commission said personal security and protection will also be extended to all other candidates who wish to contest the presidential elections.

KAMPALA REPORTS RETURN OF OBOTE ON 27 MAY

LD271234 [Editorial Report EA] Kampala Domestic Service in English at 1038 GMT on 27 May carries a report relayed live from Bushenyi that the plane carrying former Ugandan president Milton Obote touched down at 0815 GMT. According to the report, which was broadcast in English, Swahili and vernacular languages, those welcoming Obote included "his former vice president," J.K. Babiha; Foreign Minister Otema Olimadi; Regional Cooperation Minister Albert Picho Owiny; and Labor Minister Lwiriza Kirunda. Songs and slogans, including "UPC" [Uganda People's Congress], "Obote" and "Tanzania," were followed at 1050 GMT by an address by an unidentified speaker, who reviewed Uganda's recent history and thanked Tanzanian President Nyerere for his role.

Obote Speech At Rally

LD271932 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 May 80 EA

[Text] The former president of Uganda, Dr Obote, has returned home in triumph and he called on all countries and organizations to give the people of Uganda a chance to find their own bearing and resolve their own problems in their own way. Addressing a mammoth rally in Bushenyi, western Uganda, shortly after his arrival, the former Ugandan leader called on all the people of Uganda to bury their past differences and build a new nation based on unity, peace and prosperity. He said what has happened in the past 10 years has taught all Ugandans a great lesson and he warned against bickerings, vengeance and (?fragmentation) which had resulted in the calamities the country has just gone through.

All the people of Uganda, he declared, have a common destiny--we'll either live together or die. He called for tolerance in resolving the problems now facing the nation.

Defending the record of his government, Dr Obote launched a bitter attack on the former leader of the Uganda National Liberation Front, whom he accused of politics of intrigue. He denied that he was responsible for the fall of the governments of Presidents Lule and Binaisa.

He said he welcomed foreign aid but he added that foreign aid is not enough for the requirements of Uganda. He said we must mobilize our resources to rebuild the country.

On the future of his party, Dr Obote said if it were elected in the forthcoming elections it will create conditions to improve the lot of the people of Uganda. It will also create conditions conducive to foreign investment. The UPC [Uganda People's Congress] government would also encourage Ugandans with money to invest in the economy of the country and maintain law and order. He appealed to all Ugandans to report anyone with firearms and ammunition to the authorities in order to solve the problems of insecurity in the country.

On foreign policy, Dr Obote said his party has no ill feelings against any party or organization. He extended a hand of friendship to all countries, big or small, poor or rich. He also pledged that UPC will give moral and material assistance to the liberation movements. He said the greatest challenge in Africa today (is for the people to liberate their lands). He paid tribute to President Nyerere, the government, the Tanzanian people's defense forces, the ruling party, Chama Cha Mapinduzi and all the people of Tanzania for the hospitality accorded to him during the nine years he stayed in exile in Tanzania. He also thanked them for the assistance they gave to liberate Uganda.

Dr Obote was accompanied back home by his wife, (Miria), and 200 Tanzanians.

Among those who delivered speeches of welcome were the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Otema Alimadi, who represented the government; the former vice president, Mr Babiha; the chairman of the welcoming organizing committee and minister of labor, Dr Luwiriza Kirunda; and the deputy minister of local administration, Mr Edward Rurungaranga.

Mr Otema Alimadi said the contribution made by Dr Obote to the liberation of Uganda from Amin's rule of terror cannot be forgotten. He reaffirmed the government's decision to welcome home the two former presidents of Uganda, Prof Yusufu Lule and Dr Obote and to give them personal security protection. He said Uganda is large enough to accommodate its people.

Mr Babiha said Dr Obote's belief in national independence and unity is unparalleled in the history of Uganda.

Mr Rurungaranga reported that life in Uganda had become unbearable and very expensive and Obote was the only hope to restore it to normality. He said the people of Uganda are now fighting to regain their independence which no one could play with.

Among the thousands and thousands of cheering people who turned up to welcome the former leader of Uganda were the ministers of information and broadcasting, Dr David Anyoti; regional cooperation, Dr Picho Owiny; culture and community development, Dr Iberondwa; agriculture, Mr Mugwisha; cooperatives and marketing, Mr Obua Otuwa; justice, Mr Stephen Ariko; the special advisor to the military commission on political affairs, [name indistinct]; and National Consultative Council members.

In a statement issued in Kampala today to welcome Dr Obote home, the vice chairman of the UNLF Executive Committee, NEC, and minister of power, posts and telecommunications, Mr Akena Pojok, said the UNLF hoped that Dr Obote's return home will be in the spirit of further contribution to the complete liberation, rehabilitation and reconstruction of Uganda.

BENIN

WORLD LABOR FEDERATION BUREAU OPENS MEETING IN COTONOU

AB271410 Paris AFP in English 1135 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Cotonou, Benin, May 27 (AFP)--The World Labor Federation opened its 22nd bureau session here yesterday and was to study questions relating to a new international economic order during the three-day meeting.

The session is the second of the federation's 35-year history held in Africa. Sudan was the host in 1970.

The first vice president of Benin's National Revolutionary Assembly, Romain Vilon Guezo, opened the meeting in the place of President Mathieu Kerekou, who is in Lome, Togo, for the summit conference of the Economic Community of West African States.

Mr. Guezo greeted delegates from Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, representing 240 million workers, and praised the active, resolute and decisive contribution of the World Labor Federation to the revolutionary struggle of the oppressed and exploited people of the world.

The first vice president of the federation, S.A. Dange of India, said that Benin had played an important role in the struggle against imperialism in Africa and in the world and had acted in solidarity with the peoples of southern Africa in struggle against imperialism, apartheid and racism.

GHANA

RULING PARTY TO HOLD CONGRESS 30 MAY-1 JUNE

AB250840 Accra DAILY GRAPHIC in English 21 May 80 p 4

[Text] GNA--The National Congress of the People's National Party (PNP) will certainly be held at the Prempeh Assembly Hall in Kumasi from May 30 to June 1 this year, Mr Krobo Edusei, a member of the Central Committee of the party, has disclosed. Announcing this to newsmen, Mr Edusei, who is also the Ashanti regional chairman of the PNP, said the decision followed a meeting of the Steering Committee in Kumasi last week at which members endorsed the choice of Kumasi as against Koforidua.

Mr Edusei urged delegates to the congress to dismiss all fears that certain members were to be victimised, and urged them to feel free to attend in order to discuss matters affecting the organization of the party.

SOLDIERS INVOLVED IN MARCH 1980 MUTINY SENTENCED

AB271458 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Following the public announcement on 23 April 1980 by the Public Relations Directorate that seven soldiers and a civilian had been court-martialed for offenses relating to mutiny, the directorate now announces as follows:

The court martial ended on the 16th of May 1980. The court found all the accused persons guilty of the offenses charged and imposed sentences as follows: Lt Darko Koranteng, 15 years; Lance Cpl Emanuel Appiah, 15 years; Sgt Nii Charles Edodoku, 12 years; Cpl Isaac Quarshie, 12 years; Cpl Nicholas Kukubor, 12 years; Mr Emmanuel Kwasi Frempong, 12 years; LAC [Leading Aircraftman] Petikin Aduhene, 10 years; LAC Samuel Owusu, 5 years.

In attendance at the court was the deputy judge advocate general. All accused persons engaged counsel.

The directorate wishes the general public to know that courts martial are normal military courts everywhere in the world and that Ghana's 1979 constitution gave [words indistinct] to these courts in the provisions of Article 26. It is also appropriate at this stage to inform the public that there are proper rules of procedure under the country's military law to insure fair investigations and disposal of military offenses involving both servicemen and civilians.

GUINEA

RELEASE OF PRISONERS, COMMUTATION OF SENTENCES ANNOUNCED

AB271425 Paris AFP in English 1350 GMT 27 May 80

[Text] Dakar, Senegal, 27 May (AFP)--The president of Guinea, Ahmed Sekou Toure, freed 50 Guinean prisoners during February and March, according to an issue of the government gazette that reached here from Conakry. The publication also said that death sentences against six Guineans had been commuted to hard labor for life, and that sentences of hard labor for life against nine Guineans had been reduced to 20 years. There was no indication whether the persons affected were political or common law prisoners.

Mr Sekou Toure is presently in Lome, Togo, for the annual summit of the Economic Community of West African States.

LIBERIA

DOE ACCUSES BUSINESSMEN OF THREATENING ECONOMY

AB250955 Paris AFP in English 0912 GMT 25 May 80

[Text] Monrovia, May 25 (AFP)--Some rich businessmen are using their influence to threaten Liberia's economy, head of state Master Sergeant Samuel K. Doe warned here Saturday in an appeal for unity. Citing bankers, shipowners and other investors both in Liberia and abroad, Sgt Doe said their links with the ousted Tolbert administration were too close and they had all sorts of arrangements to cheat the government. They seem not to be too happy with the revolutionary developments in Liberia today, he added. He said the previous regime had spent nearly half a million dollars a year to pay some American firms to promote Liberia's image in the United States. None of them was writing anything worthwhile about our country, but they were receiving payments, he said.

Sgt Doe warned: I feel that a new kind of enemies are against us. If we allow them to succeed, they will come into our country... and stir up confusion and make the achievement of our goals more difficult. We must unite, therefore... to exclude from our dealings all those who want to see us fail.

Master Sergeant Doe was reporting on his visit to Guinea on Friday to brief President Ahmed Sekou Toure on the coup he led here last month in which President William Tolbert was murdered. He said one lesson he drew from his talks with Mr Toure was the conviction that imperialist forces would use any means to discredit the wind of change in our society, especially when so many of their friends are involved in the process.

There would have to be a revision of all Liberian institutions, the military leader stressed. He commented: We are a free, sovereign and independent nation, capable of seeking help from any friend in these early days of our administration. After all, we are only a small country, and with the proper utilization of our vast natural resources, we can all live a good life.

DOE ASSURES BUSINESSES OF ENCOURAGEMENT, PROTECTION

AB270706 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 26 May 80

[Excerpt] The Liberian Government has congratulated and assured all new business establishments in the country of continued encouragement because of the confidence they have shown in the new administration. The commendation and assurance were given yesterday afternoon by the head of state, M Sgt Samuel Doe, when he dedicated the first fully Liberian-owned restaurant business in Capitol Hill in Monrovia.

The head of state, who reiterated government's protection and encouragement for all business houses in the country, said he was aware that restaurant ventures would bring more employment to some of the Liberian people in the community. He then called on management of businesses to be fair and just with their employees and with the public.

TOGO

PRESIDENT RECEIVES AFRICAN ENVOYS, MESSAGE FROM BREZHNEV

AB240925 Lome Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 23 May 80

[Text] The founding father of the RPT [Togolese People's Rally] and president of the republic, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, this afternoon received two envoys from Gambia and Liberia, who were bearing messages from their heads of state to our leader.

Our leader first of all received Mr Sabally, minister of economic planning and industrial development of Gambia. After a brief moment of talks with the president, the Gambian minister said the friendly ties binding our two heads of state have been strengthened through the great efforts being made by President Eyadema for the progress of ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States]. Mr Sabally was accompanied by the Gambian ambassador to Togo with residence in Lagos. The Gambian personalities were introduced to President Eyadema by Mr Tevi-Benissan, member of the Political Bureau and minister of finance and economy.

It was then the turn of Dr Togba Nah Tipoteh, Liberian minister of planning and economic affairs, to be received by the president. The Liberian minister was accompanied by Mr (Harriette Akoligie), secretary of state for finance and taxes, and Mr (Roger Anderson), secretary of state for foreign affairs and economic cooperation. Dr Nah Tipoteh also conveyed a message from the Liberian head of state to General Eyadema. Master Sergeant Doe's message concerns the situation prevailing in Liberia after the change of government.

The founding-president of the RPT also gave an audience to the Soviet ambassador to Togo, Mr Ilyukhin. The Soviet envoy transmitted a message of congratulations from the president of the Supreme Soviet, Leonid Brezhnev, to our leader on the occasion of African Liberation Day.

UPPER VOLTA

NEW SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT, OTHERS APPOINTED

AB261337 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 23 May 80

[Excerpt] By a presidential decree passed at the ministerial council meeting today, 23 May 1980, Mr Emile Sawadogo, magistrate grade one, is appointed president of the Supreme Court replacing Mr Traore Charles Seriba who has been called to other functions. During this same meeting the following persons were appointed members of the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court: Mr (Pogma Jacques), civil administrator; (Mr Yarda Iarba), assistant lecturer at the university.

ANGOLA

TEXT OF WORKERS COMMUNIQUE ON SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACKS

LD271952 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0530 GMT 27 May 80 EA

[Text] Here is a communique from the National Union of Angolan Workers, UNTA:

Comrade workers: Once again the racist South African regime has shown its bloody and fascist character by killing our peaceful people in the provinces of Cunene and Cuango Cubango, thereby violating the principles of sovereignty laid down in the UN charter. Angolan workers were again surprised by the communique from the Defense Ministry of 24 May 1980, which described the serious crimes perpetrated in our country by the South African Nazi army which caused the death of more than 260 persons. We are aware that such actions are to be expected at present due to the pressure brought to bear on the South African racists by the SWAPO liberation forces, who are winning new victories every day, and by international public opinion, which is demanding a just solution for the illegally occupied Namibian territory. But, as Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has said, imperialism will not learn the lessons of history. Yesterday it was defeated in Vietnam, Kampuchea, Mozambique, Angola and Nicaragua. Today it was defeated in Zimbabwe. And we are sure that tomorrow it will be defeated in Namibia. The South African racists ought to realize that such actions or even more extreme ones will not make us withdraw from our supreme objective of building socialism in the People's Republic of Angola, from giving our international support to the heroic people of Namibia and its revolutionary vanguard, SWAPO.

Angolan workers, let us not slumber in peace in the capital and the other towns when our people are being criminally killed on our southern frontier. We must remain permanently mobilized, ready to defend our fatherland and people as soon as the nation calls on us to do our supreme duty. Our trade commissions and trade unions must make clear to the workers of each enterprise, public department and farm the need and justness to do compulsory military service and for volunteering to serve in the ranks of the people's defense organization. We Angolan workers, who are duty bound to defend the fatherland and the revolution, should not befriend such of our compatriots as those who consciously or unconsciously (?refuse) to do military service when inducted into the people's armed forces for the liberation of Angola.

Let us tighten up discipline at work by fight in disorganization, carelessness, negligence, arrogance and indifference. Let us increase production and productivity at work by carrying out the preparatory tasks laid down by the first party extraordinary congress and (?creating) the People's Assembly.

On behalf of its 600,000 members, the General Secretariat of the Angolan Workers' National Union expresses unconditional support for the measures announced in the Defense Ministry communique of 24th May 1980, and exhorts the oppressed workers of South Africa to continue making their [word indistinct] demands against the cruel apartheid system. In spite of the sacrifices we are making, we shall not retreat from our solidarity support for the workers of Namibia and their central trade union, the National Union of Namibian Workers.

[Signed] Comrade Valgao Branco, deputy general secretary.

ZAMBIA**PRESIDENT KAUNDA OUTLINES 'BASIC THREATS' TO NATION**

LD271456 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 27 May 80 CA

[Text] President Kaunda says Zambia still faces three basic threats to its national security despite the attainment of independence in Zimbabwe.

Revealing this today at the opening of a 5-day commanding officers conference at Mulungushi Hall, Dr Kaunda appealed to the nation to remain in a state of national alert. He warned that it was dangerous for the public to relax and pay less attention to vigilance after the Zimbabwe independence.

The president outlined the three basic threats as being the acts of aggression against Zambia by South Africa, the work of South African trained agents who encourage crime, and people who do not apply their minds fully to economic development. Dr Kaunda said that until Namibia is independent, Zambians must remain vigilant 24 hours a day and take extra care in the protection of Zambia.

Describing South Africa's acts of aggression against Angola and Zambia as acts of desperation, Dr Kaunda said every act of intimidation against the people of the two nations and those of Namibia was an extra (?vote for trouble). The president called on the Zambia national defense forces to be a leading force not only in war, but also in the fight for economic power, which is the basis for military power. He said while assisting the struggle for independence in Namibia, the defense forces should also assist in fulfilling people's expectations.

Emphasizing the role of the defense forces as that of fighting, leading, producing, construction and [word indistinct] President Kaunda says Zambian fighters must be efficient managers of the country's revolution.

Dr Kaunda said the nation's confident expectations are in line with the policy and programs of the party. He said this confidence must be restored in the masses and in the party and its government, which has constantly declared that the cause of the party is the cause of the people, while the cause of the people is also that of the party. He told the gathering, which included Party Secretary General Mr Mainza Chona, Prime Minister Mr Daniel Lisulo, and Secretary of Defense and State Security Mr Grey Zulu, that as frontiers of freedom are being expanded, the frontiers of poverty become clearly demarcated. He said in order to fight for [word indistinct] objects, there was need for participation of every institution and individual in the nation.

Dr Kaunda commended the national service for playing a decisive role in fulfilling the nation's objectives by spearheading the rural reconstruction program and [words indistinct]. The president also called for an increased sense of discipline among the officers and hard work in the application of efforts to the resources of the nation.